

THE TIMES
TomorrowAfter the break...
Bernard Levin on
the BBC's hostility
to advertisingKasbah capers
Michael Watkins profiles TunisiaSlice of life
Philip Norman bakes
a cake in New YorkGoing for goal
Line-up for the
first round of
the FA Cup

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition was won yesterday by Mr David Crothers who lives in Walsall; as there was no winner on Wednesday he receives £4,000. Portfolio list, page 26. How to play, Information Service, back page.

Bill aims to
stop glue
sniffing

A Bill aimed at ending glue sniffing is to be introduced in the Commons by Mr Neville Trotter, the Conservative MP who came top of the ballot for private members' Bills. He will seek Home Office advice on drafting his Bill, which will almost certainly have government support.

Ballot result, page 5

Withdrawal call

The United Nations General Assembly called for the fifth year in succession for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, where Soviet troops invaded in December, 1979.

Damages paid

Selfridges, the London department store, paid £1,500 damages to Mrs Maureen Steinberg, a racehorse owner, and apologized for wrongly accusing her of shoplifting.

Page 3



OAU appeal

The Organization of African Unity summit ended with a call for massive international aid for Africa and pledged to hold a meeting next year to consider what Africa can do for itself.

Emergency spreads, page 6

Parole policy

The House of Lords declared that the Home Secretary's new, tougher parole policy for certain murderers and other criminals was legal.

Page 2

Leader page 17
Letters: On food aid, from Mr M. Bax, and others; Japanese, from Professor Y. Furukawa; squatters, from the Rev R.G.N. Plant
Leading articles: EEC enlargement; parole

Features pages 10, 12, 15
David Steel urges fresh thinking on the Falklands; Labour's illusions; why foreign spending cuts have gone far enough; Spectrum: the countryside's comic crusader. Friday Page: backblast to the front line; Penmanship, pages 27-29 A special report on the joys of writing well

Classified, pages 22, 32-34
Business to business, motoring
Obituary, page 18
Dr Robert Mackenna, the Rev T. Bellhouse

Synod votes for legislation on ordaining women

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England took a large step yesterday towards ordaining women as priests, which could happen by the next synod, when the General Synod carried by fair majority a resolution calling for legislation to achieve this.

Since 1975 the church has failed to move beyond a position in favour of the principle, but unwilling to implement it. A similar motion calling for legislation was defeated in 1978.

The size of the majority was something of a surprise to all concerned, particularly as the debate had seemed to indicate an even balance.

The movement for the Ordination of Women said it was "delighted", but opponents took comfort from the lack of a two-thirds majority, which did not affect the outcome but which legislation will need.

The first woman is unlikely to be ordained until the 1990s. Mr Derek Pattinson, secretary general of the Synod, said: The next step is the election of a new Synod next year, when that issue, as the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood said in the course of the debate, would dominate the hustings.

Draft legislation could be ready for consideration by the 44 diocesan synods in 1986. The final decision, requiring a two-thirds majority, could come in 1988.

That timetable assumes that

Anglo Catholics in the Synod, heavily opposed to the resolution, were not reassured by the information that the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission has the issue on its official agenda. Their opposition stems partly from concern over the effect on relations with Roman Catholic Church.

Probably the most significant remains of the five-hour debate was made by the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowly, summing up. He observed the none of the opposition had been based this upon fundamental theological grounds.

It was admitted by both sides that the really difficult questions were about how fast to proceed; how to avoid damaging and dividing the church, and how not to damage the prospect of church unity. In this respect the debate represented a significant movement of opinion.

He asked what kind of ministry would women be called upon to exercise, saying whereas priests should be symbols of reconciliation women priests would be symbols of division. Report, page 5



Dr Runcie yesterday. He committed himself to ordaining women but urged delay

British Telecom office runs out of share documents

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

The Government will announce today the terms on which British Telecom shares are being sold amid mounting evidence that next week's privatisation issue is going to be a popular sell-out. At least two million people are now expected to put in for shares, well above original expectations.

The surge of interest claimed its first administrative casualty yesterday when the official BT share information office in Bristol started telling callers that it had run out of prospectuses. The office has had 1.3 million requests for application forms, more than three-and-a-half times the number it had originally budgeted for.

Embarrassed officials admitted that they had stopped sending out the prospectuses, and were advising potential investors to go to banks and building societies instead to find copies. The prospectus will also be published in national newspapers, including *The Times*, on Tuesday.

Although the details of the pricing of the shares will not be announced until this morning, the prime minister has been carefully prepared by Mr Papandreu, who had also been instrumental in arranging the Franco-Libyan agreement for the evacuation of their troops from Chad last weekend.

Mitterrand had agreed to the Greek suggestion of a meeting with Colonel Gaddafi because he believed that the evacuation agreement had been carried out.

But later the French president's certainty appeared to waver as French intelligence reports confirmed US satellite observations that there were still Libyan Troops in the north of Chad.

After discussions lasting almost five hours in the heavily guarded Cretan sea-side hotel, Mr Papandreu told reporters he was speaking on behalf of President Mitterrand, who had left for Paris immediately after the talks.

"They agreed that not one French or Libyan soldier should remain in Chad... They also agreed that if there is intervention by a third country, whatever country it may be, Libya will not only have the right to defend itself in the region, but also the right, guaranteed by France, to defend its own borders. France will not support any third country's intervention in Chad."

PARIS: French Opposition MPs yesterday accused President Mitterrand of granting Colonel Gaddafi "a kind of certificate of respectability which other great Western nations have refused to give him", by agreeing to meet the Libyan leader, particularly at a time when he appeared to have broken the Chad withdrawal agreement. Diana Geddes writes.

Arrangements are now almost complete for the first leg of the journey to Peking, where the Prime Minister is to sign the agreement on the future of Hong Kong. The Chinese have made it clear, and the British Government has accepted, that the importance of the occasion requires Mrs Thatcher's presence, although Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will go with her.

The US has proposed that initially the talks be revived under a broader forum - or "umbrella" - that existed previously. This concept would enable Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and his Soviet counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, to have a broad exchange on key arms control issues leading to negotiations by experts on specific items.

It would allow for discussions of the critical relationship between offensive and defensive systems and provide

NUM ignores Labour call for pit ballot

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Sheffield

Leaders of the National Union of Miners decided yesterday to ignore the clear hints from the Labour Party leadership to hold a national ballot. Instead they voted to continue the pit strike indefinitely.

The executive committee of the NUM unanimously agreed on a five-point plan to intensify the 36-week stoppage and invited the churches to give aid to the strikers in a new propaganda offensive against the Government.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the president of the NUM, said: "I am not going to include myself in any slanging match between sections of the trade union and labour movement. What I want to do is unify the movement."

However, the NUM's declaration of its bargaining position yesterday is unlikely to heal the growing rift between left-wing supporters of the miners and moderates on the TUC general council who are arguing that the conduct of the coal dispute should be taken out of the hands of Mr Scargill and his allies.

At yesterday's meeting of the NUM executive it was decided to reaffirm all previous decisions on the conduct of the strike and reiterate that the NUM were available to "negotiate a settlement of this damaging and costly dispute in line with *Plan for Coal*." That form of words is the customary code for the union's insistence on withdrawal of the pit closure programme put forward by the coal board on March 6.

But the board is not willing to resume negotiations on that basis, and a long stalemate in the peace process is now expected despite behind the scenes efforts by Mr Stanley Orme, Labour's energy spokesman.

The archbishops of Canterbury and York last night offered to act as mediators in the pits dispute. Dr Robert Runcie and Dr John Habgood said in a joint statement to the Church of England's General Synod: "Should there be a serious request to the bishops from the NUM to act in a mediating or reconciling role, we would respond positively to consultation with other church leaders."

One compromise proposal suggested yesterday during the executive meeting was swiftly dismissed. Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners, a moderate who is nonetheless strongly identified with the strike, proposed that the NUM should go back into talks with the coal board on the basis of a five-month moratorium on pit closures.

Mr Vincent's idea drew only a handful of supporters, and was not pressed to a vote.

The idea of a pithead ballot, which Labour leaders wanted to see on the agenda, was mentioned only in passing and was not seriously raised by moderates who want to see such a poll.

Continued on back page, col 8

Kinnock's 'lack of guts' attacked by Thatcher

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister exploited Labour's vulnerability on the coal strike yesterday, accusing Mr Neil Kinnock of bumbling on the question of a ballot, and of lacking guts on the issue of picketing violence.

There were strong signs of Westminster last night that Labour, already dragging 9 per cent behind in the latest opinion poll, was beginning to crack under the strain of the dispute.

On the one side, Mr Roy Hattersley's Shadow Cabinet allies showed their delight that the deputy leader had urged greater consultation of the miners by their leadership.

It was said, with authority, that Mr Hattersley wanted some formal consultative exercise so that the miners could have their say in the running - or ending - of the dispute.

More than, it was said to be of vital political importance to the public should be able to

observe the exercise and know that if the strike continued then it continued because more than 100,000 miners believed in the necessity for prolonged industrial action.

Mr Kinnock remained silent. Having endorsed Mr Hattersley's initiative, the leader's friends said that it was not for him to say anything. The miners were grown men and if they wanted to voice an opinion they could do through the NUM lodges.

Margaret Thatcher's broadside against the beleaguered Labour leader came after he had accused her of bumbling for saying she wanted a quick end to the strike.

The Prime Minister said that she could not teach Mr Kinnock anything about bumbling. "He said things about a ballot at the beginning of the strike and then

Continued on back page, col 8

The British Home at Streatham cares for over 100 incurable people of all ages

We nurse them with gentleness, love and dedication for many years.

Our costs - over a million pounds a year - seriously outstrip our income.

Please help, by sending a donation or arranging a covenant or legacy to transform the lives of those less fortunate people, our residents handicapped by progressive diseases.



BHI THE BRITISH HOME AND HOSPITAL FOR INCURABLES

Crown Lane, Streatham, London, SW16 3JB

Patron H.M. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

Registered Charity No 206222

Artist to be among Prince's godparents

By Alan Hamilton



Royal godparents: (from left) Prince Andrew; Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones; Mr Bryan Organ; Lady Cecile Vestey, a personal friend of the Prince and Princess; Mr Bryan Organ, the artist for whom the Prince and Princess have sat; and Mr Gerald Ward, whose former wife Rosalind was a friend of the Princess before

Runcie thinks Mason priests confuse people

Clergymen who are also Freemasons confuse the public, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, said yesterday. (Rupert Morris writes)

In a letter to a St Albans councillor, Mr Malcolm MacMillan, who had expressed outrage at the disclosure by the Dean of St Albans, the Very Rev Peter Moore, that he was a freemason, Dr Runcie wrote: "Quite frankly I myself think it is confusing for people if clergymen get involved with Freemasonry".

But Dr Runcie welcomed the Dean's decision to write openly about being a freemason.

Beale News	2,3,5	Motoring	33
Overseas	6,8,9	Obituary	18
Arts	23	Parliament	4
Business	15	Sale Room	2
Court	18	Science	18
Crossword	36	TV & Radio	35
Diary	16	Theatres, etc	35
Events	36	Weather	35
Law Report	25	Villas	18

Lords approve Brittan's tougher parole restrictions

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Home Secretary's tough parole policy for prisoners guilty of certain kinds of murder, other violent crimes, and drug trafficking was held to be legal by the House of Lords yesterday.

In a unanimous judgment which affects several hundred prisoners, the Law Lords ruled that Mr Leon Brittan did not act unlawfully in introducing the policy last autumn.

But the policy, which creates a 30-year minimum jail term for murderers of police and prison officers and of children, and for terrorists as well as those who kill during armed robberies, is now expected to be challenged before the European Commission of Human Rights.

The Law Lords dismissed an appeal brought by four prisoners all affected by the changes, which also mean the withdrawal of parole for all prisoners serving five or more years for violent crime or drug trafficking, except in "exceptional circumstances".

Two of them were already in open prisons in preparation for release when the Home Secretary announced his policy in the Conservative Party conference in October, last year, and were immediately sent back to closed prisons.

He said that their release in the relatively near future "would not have accorded with my view of the gravity of their offences".

Giving judgment yesterday, Lord Scarman said that until the policy was announced each of the two prisoners expected that he might be granted parole in the not-too-distant future.

The shattering impact of the policy statement upon the four appellants can surprise no one. Their excellent prison records were greatly to their credit and the prior practices in the administration of parole understandably nourished their hopes of early release.

The Home Secretary was aware of the impact of the new policy, Lord Scarman added. But he had made clear that in cases of violent crime the paramount consideration would be the safety of the public, not the interests of the individual criminal.

The Home Secretary had not been obliged, as lawyers for the prisoners argued, to consult the

Parole Board before adopting the policy; it did not act unlawfully in introducing a policy based on a category of offence and was not in breach of the law by thwarting the prisoners' expectations of release.

Miss Kate Asteker, solicitor for the prisoners, said she was greatly disappointed with the ruling. "The whole prison population has been watching this case; these four have been spokesmen for the whole system and many hopes will have been dashed."

But she added that they would take the case before the European Commission of Human Rights. "The moral issue still remains that this policy was a retrospective penal sanction which is against the European Convention on Human Rights."

The judgment was also criticized by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro). "The policy may have been upheld legally, but that does not detract from the fact that such a fundamental change in the way the parole system operates should have been put before Parliament in the form of legislation", Mr Paul Cadavino, research officer, said.

He said the policy was both constitutionally and morally objectionable. "It means that the Home Secretary is imposing his views on those of the judiciary who imposed their sentences on the merits of individual cases. Instead, the Home Secretary is fixing a new sentence for a whole category."

Second, it imposed gratuitous suffering on the individual prisoners, who in one case would now be in prison until the end of the decade, when he had reasonably expected release by next year. "This will do absolutely nothing to reduce violent crime."

Exceptionally good teachers would be awarded teacher fellowships to last three years. During that period they would be given £1,000 each year and allowed to take a term's sabbatical leave. Teacher fellows would have to help with in-service training.

Merit pay as such has been dropped as has the notion of "accelerated incremental progression" which envisaged high fliers being placed on a fast track.

The proposals suggest that teacher hours be limited to 1,300 a year, spread over 195 days, and that teachers would not have to spend more than 25 hours a week in the classroom.

All secondary school teachers would be entitled to two free periods a week, and all teachers would have to do up to two days' lunchtime supervision outside the dining room, for not more than half of the lunch break.

Leading article, page 17
Law Report, page 25

Big change proposed in teachers' conditions

By Lucy Hodges, Educational Correspondent

Big reforms in teachers' pay and conditions were proposed yesterday that would mean all new teachers would have to serve a probationary period before progressing to a main grade if they were assessed as suitable.

The package, proposed by the teachers' employers, the local education authorities, outlines for the first time a contract for teachers that would include a requirement that they substitute for absent colleagues and do a limited amount of lunchtime supervision.

Teachers' unions jealously guard the right not to have to perform these duties and Mr Doug McAvoy, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, the biggest teachers' union, said yesterday that at this point the document "is immediately and obviously unsatisfactory and unacceptable".

The proposals, which have been sent for approval to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, propose that the main professional grade for qualified teachers should carry a salary scale of £8,500 to £11,800. Most classroom teachers at present earn £8,500. The present scale is from £5,442 to £13,395.

Under the new proposals, teachers would be able to progress up the main grade so long as their headteacher certifies that their work was satisfactory. At the same time promotion could be stopped by the head.

Exceptionally good teachers would be awarded teacher fellowships to last three years. During that period they would be given £1,000 each year and allowed to take a term's sabbatical leave. Teacher fellows would have to help with in-service training.

Merit pay as such has been dropped as has the notion of "accelerated incremental progression" which envisaged high fliers being placed on a fast track.

The proposals suggest that teacher hours be limited to 1,300 a year, spread over 195 days, and that teachers would not have to spend more than 25 hours a week in the classroom.

All secondary school teachers would be entitled to two free periods a week, and all teachers would have to do up to two days' lunchtime supervision outside the dining room, for not more than half of the lunch break.

Leading article, page 17
Law Report, page 25

Dismissal warning for GLC staff

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, Labour leader of the Greater London Council, said yesterday that staff would be dismissed if they gave the Government information to aid abolition of the council in 1986.

Mr Livingstone's message, which had been given in a speech to supporters of the council's campaign against abolition, was published in the weekly newspaper *Labour Herald*. Mr Livingstone is one of its three joint editors.

"We have had information come to us identifying a small group of officers within the bureaucracy who are giving out information to the Government about the abolition of the council in 1986,"

A spokesman for Mr Livingstone said nothing would be done about the law until it had been debated by the appropriate GLC committees. "At first glance, if interpreted literally, it will be an absolute administrative nightmare."

She added that Mr Livingstone's threat was meant as a general warning.

Left-wing paper planned

Another proposal for a left-wing newspaper is being considered by the Greater London Enterprise Board, which has been asked to contribute £40,000.

Mr Clive Thornton, former chairman of the Abbey National Building Society and former

Ford men reject 6% offer

Union negotiators at Ford rejected an improved 6 per cent pay offer to the car company's 40,500 hourly-paid workers yesterday.

Ford had increased its offer by 1 per cent and improved its pension scheme by what it said was the equivalent of nearly 1 per cent on wages.

The unions lodged a claim in September for a 14 per cent rise and a big cut in working hours.

Ford applied initially with a 4 per cent offer, which went up to 5 per cent at the last meeting, on November 5. The present basic pay for a 39-hour week for day work ranges between £110.77 and £142.98. This is increased, by alternating day and night work, to between £129.18 and £166.81.

A supplement of between £6.96 and £9 is paid when an employee works all the standard weekly hours.

Union leaders at Austin Rover will meet today to consider their next move in the nine-day strike, against a background of growing defiance by shop-floor workers.

Modigliani nude brings in £3.5m

By Hoon Mallalieu

The American appetite for Impressionism and modern paintings appears to be insatiable.

This week Christie's in New York has made more than \$29m in its series of sales, and Sotheby's produced a little more in a single session on Wednesday evening.

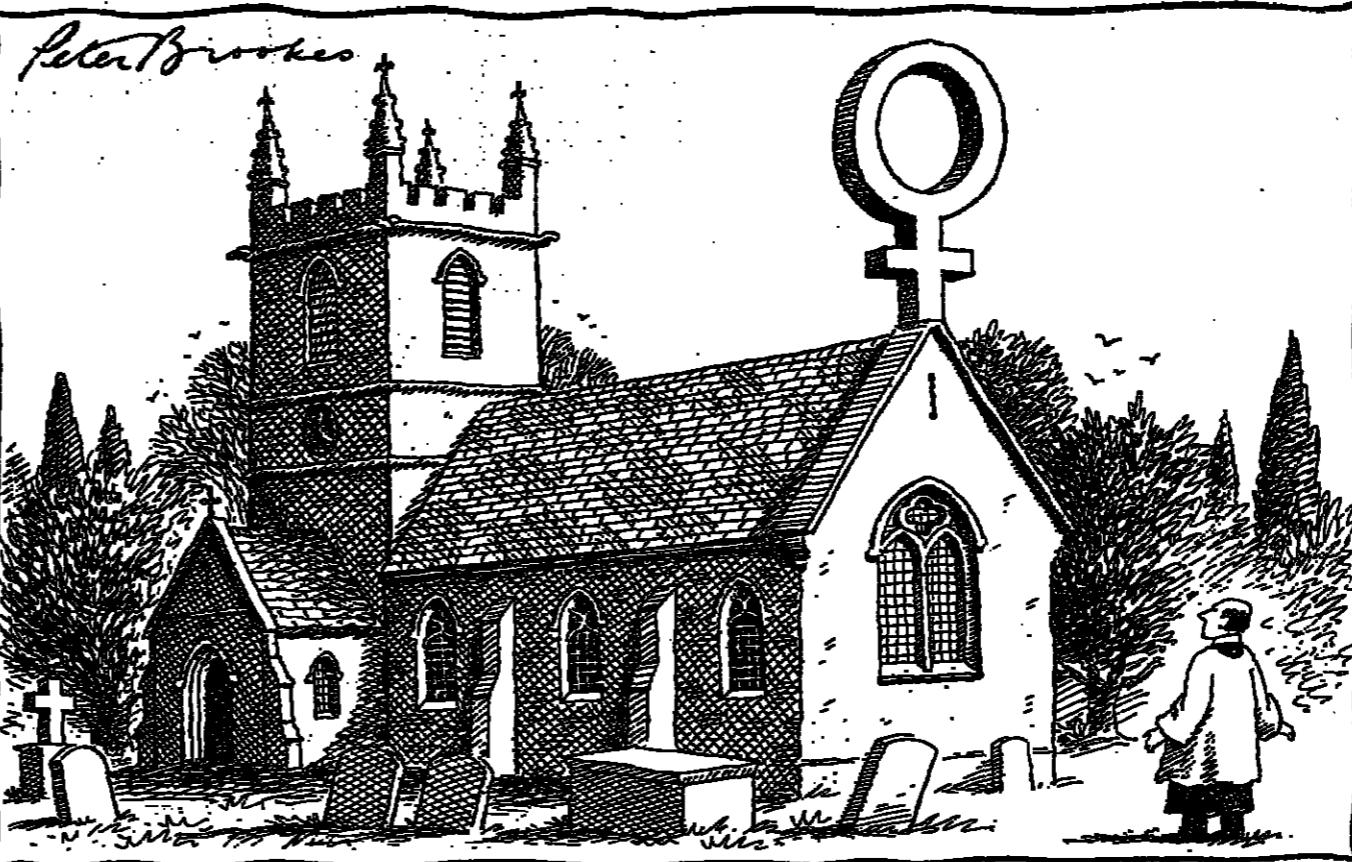
Seven works were sold for more than £1m. The most expensive, a record \$4,620,000 (£3.5m) was "La Reveneuse", a reclining nude by Modigliani, sold by Sotheby's.

Six paintings which did particularly well came from the Boston collection of Mr and Mrs David Bakalar, including "La Femme à la Grande Toque" by Corot, which made \$3,850,000 (£2.9m, estimate \$2m to £3m). This has been seen as Corot's answer to the "Mona Lisa", and the price was easily a record.

In Geneva on Wednesday, Christie's took \$1.1m (£3.5m) for the third-largest fancy blue diamond recorded in

the world, the pear-shaped stone of 42.92 carats is mounted as a pendant, and it was bought for £354,840.

Sotheby's sold a silver-gilt toilet service from the estate of the late King Umberto II,



Coal board and NUM clash over figures

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The momentum of the return to work by striking miners continued yesterday, according to the National Coal Board. However, miners' leaders continued to dispute the number of men breaking the strike.

Mr Michael Eaton, the coal board's spokesman, said: "If it is true, as one executive member said, that the return to work was not even discussed at the NUM executive meeting, I find that astounding."

The board reported that 708 "new faces" reported for work for the first time on the morning and afternoon shifts yesterday, bringing the total number returning to work this week to more than 4,600 compared with last week's record figure of almost 2,200.

Mr Eaton said: "It is ridiculous for union leaders to try to

dismiss this as propaganda. The NUM are not in the business of falsifying figures. It is a fact that there are now more than 58,000 NUM members who are not on strike and I have no doubt at all that the board claim have returned to work are added together they would come to more than the total number of men employed by the board."

Despite fewer men returning to work since Monday's surge of 1,900 men, coal board officials are confident that the trend has been established with well over 500 new men reporting for duty each day.

Monday is the deadline for returning miners to qualify for extra entitlements before Christmas in the case of a top paid face worker more than £1,100 including wages, holiday pay and a bonus.

Mr Eaton said: "It is ridiculous for union leaders to try to

Strike pay query to NUM wives

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday invited Mrs Anne Scargill and Mrs Betty Heathfield to ask their husbands why they had decided it better to spend union funds on mob picketing rather than on strike pay.

In a letter to them he also said that Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and Mr Peter Heathfield, the union's general secretary, had organized a strike for which there was no industrial justification and that their actions were damaging mining communities.

Mr Michael Mansfield, for the four men, told Mr Justice Skinner, sitting with Mr Justice Ottton, that although the police had the powers to stop the men and warn them that if they went ahead and caused a breach of the peace, they would not have the power to anticipate trouble and prevent their free passage.

There was no evidence that

any of these four men were intending to commit criminal acts of any kind", Mr Mansfield said.

The four men, Mr Reginald Moss, Mr Albert Bowes, Mr Ernest Warner, and Mr Derek Smith, were stopped by police as they left the M1 motorway at Annesley in April this year. Police officers told them they had reason to think that if they were allowed to enter Nottinghamshire they would commit a breach of the peace and asked them to turn around.

When they refused and attempted to push their way through a police cordon, they were arrested and convicted the next month by magistrates at the pits dispute.

Richard Baker, aged 18, of Alderley, was sentenced to 56 days' detention for damaging property and besetting the home of a working miner, Barry Kay, aged 17, at a detention centre. Dale staff officer, aged 17, a fireman, Ernest Warner, and Mr Derek Smith, were stopped by police as they left the M1 motorway at Annesley in April this year. Police officers told them they had reason to think that if they were allowed to enter Nottinghamshire they would commit a breach of the peace and asked them to turn around.

When they refused and attempted to push their way through a police cordon, they were arrested and convicted the next month by magistrates at the pits dispute.

Judgment was reserved to a

Mansfield of obstructing a police officer.

But Mr Mansfield said that unless the police had grounds to arrest in relation to a breach of the peace at the time, they were not entitled to take any other measure except to warn the men of the consequences of breaching the peace if they were allowed through to the colliery.

The power they were seeking to execute was not one of arrest but one of preventing freedom of movement", said Mr Mansfield.

The police were "no one's lackeys," Mr John Milmo, QC, counsel for the Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire, said. He added that if the police officers, who formed the M1 cordons had stood aside and ushered the miners' cars through, knowing that a breach of the peace was imminent, they would have been guilty of dereliction of duty.

The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, stood down from the panel of judges hearing the case after objections from Mr Mansfield that the case would be prejudiced because of Lord Lane's findings in a similar action earlier this year.

Lord Lane said that although he could see no technical reason why he should not hear the case, he was willing to stand down.

Judgment was reserved to a

date to be fixed.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

the area union from describing the strike as official or ordering members to strike and not cross picket lines will also be challenged, as will orders requiring the union not to implement the new NUM disciplinary code.

The judge's orders banning

Selfridges pays damages and costs to woman wrongly accused of theft

By Michael Hornsby

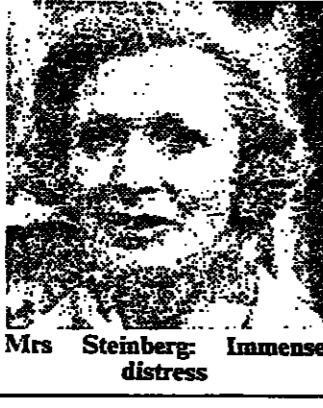
The two-year ordeal of Mrs Maureen Steinberg, the racehorse owner and breeder who was wrongfully accused of shoplifting at Selfridges in the West End of London ended in the High Court yesterday when the store paid her £1,500 damages for defamation.

Mrs Steinberg's humiliation occurred after she bought three items from the Oxford Street store and stood talking to a friend on the pavement outside for 15 minutes.

It was then that a store detective accompanied by a police officer questioned her and searched her handbag.

Mr Justice McNeill was told by her counsel, Mr Thomas Shiel, that when she produced receipts for the goods she had bought they left after apologizing for the mistake.

He added: "This incident, as one can well imagine, caused Mrs Steinberg immense distress and embarrassment. She is a woman of unblemished character and felt particularly humili-



Mrs Steinberg: Immense distress

Fight to cut £60m BBC revenue loss

By Richard Evans

A new campaign against television licence defaulters is being planned by the Home Office in an attempt to ease the BBC's financial problems before next month's negotiations over the new licence fee.

An estimated £1,500 out of 20 million households with televisions avoid buying the licence, resulting in the loss of £60m revenue.

The present colour fee of £46, which produces an annual revenue of £750m, could be cut by £5 if licence avoidance was eradicated.

With the BBC widely expected to ask the Home Office for the fee to be increased to £67 for the next three years, the Home Office is concerned that law-abiding viewers will resent a big increase, given the present level of evasion.

Among the ideas being

BBC's cultural role

Blankety Blank and phone-in shows were among the "cruderities and trivialities which inevitably characterize a mass medium", a senior BBC executive said last night in one of the clearest statements for a long time on the BBC's "high cultural" role (Our Social Policy Correspondent wrote).

Mr Ian McIntyre, controller of Radio 3, told a lecture audience at St John's College,

Officer did not stab deliberately

A Jamaican Army officer was cleared yesterday of deliberately stabbing a Royal Marine over a racial jibe.

After the verdict at Exeter Crown Court, Second Lieutenant Karl-Gunnar Charles-Harris said that he planned to celebrate with the man he almost killed.

The court was told during the four-day trial that Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris, aged 20, picked up a knife after Second Lieutenant Andrew Quinton called him a "black twat" in a dispute over cleaning a machine gun.

Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris said that Second Lieutenant Quinton, aged 20, was his friend and he had not meant to use the knife, but "I lost my cool".

The jury cleared Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris of malicious wounding.

The alleged attack happened in May at the Commando training centre, Lympstone, Devon, where both men were on a course.

The knife went in almost to the hilt and pierced Second Lieutenant Quinton's heart. He nearly died, but luck and prompt medical attention saved him.

Mr Christopher Wilson Smith, for the prosecution, said that Second Lieutenant Charles-Harris, one of two Jamaicans in the group of 18 undergoing training at Lympstone, "lost his temper in an uncontrollable way".

He insisted that he had no intention of causing injury.

Terror that haunts inner city women

Half the people who live in inner Liverpool say they are too scared to walk the streets after dark. Women and the elderly live in fear of attacks and some say they even feel unsafe in their homes.

Details of the "curfew" lifestyle emerged from the first findings of a report on crime on Merseyside. Mr Richard Kinsey, criminology expert at Edinburgh University, who presented the report, said yesterday: "The picture which has emerged is quite clear: the people of Liverpool's inner-city, especially the women, are living under curfew. The poor worry

more than anybody else, but they are more to worry about."

In Toxteth, scene of the 1981 riots, three quarters of the people interviewed thought there were risks for women who went out at night. On council estates outside the city centre, things were not much better, he said. But there, one of the main reasons for people staying home was the fear of burglary.

The report, conducted over the past 12 months, disclosed that the Merseyside burglary rate is three times higher than the national average. The report has been sponsored by Merseyside County Council with the

Merseyside police at a cost of £94,000.

A sample of 3,600 people were interviewed throughout the county, including 1,400 in five small representative districts. A final report will be published in February 1985.

Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, said:

"There is little of what Mr Kinsey says that surprises me. I think he deals a lot in myths and legends. But on the other hand we have to look at it analytically. 'We can't ignore it or dismiss it as "rubbish". It supports a lot of the views we have made in the past.'

Edinburgh University, who presented the report, said yesterday: "The picture which has emerged is quite clear: the people of Liverpool's inner-city, especially the women, are living under curfew. The poor worry

more than anybody else, but they are more to worry about."

In Toxteth, scene of the 1981

riots, three quarters of the

people interviewed thought

there were risks for women

who went out at night. On

council estates outside the

city centre, things were not

much better, he said. But there,

one of the main reasons for

people staying home was

the fear of burglary.

The report, conducted over

the past 12 months, disclosed

that the Merseyside burglar

age is three times higher

than the national average. The

report has been sponsored by

Merseyside County Council with the



Among those who attended a memorial service to Leonard Rossiter at St Paul's Covent Garden, yesterday were (left to right) Derek Nimmo; Mr Rossiter's widow Gillian Raine, and Don Warrington, a co-star in the television series *Rising Damp*. (Photographs: Chris Harris). Report, page 18.

Inquest told of Alan Lake's depression

By David Cross

Alan Lake, the actor, told his housekeeper a few minutes before he killed himself that he was "in more trouble than you will ever know", an inquest was told yesterday.

Mrs Honor Webb, of Birch Hill, Bracknell, Berkshire, described how Mr Lake, the husband of the actress Diana Dors, had taken a telephone call, after which he sat on the stairs with his head in his hands.

The men, René Maureille, aged 41, of Dijon, and Jean Beuret, aged 31, of Angiers, were each fined £150 with £20 costs yesterday by Dover magistrates after pleading guilty to driving after consuming two and a half times the limit.

They were both banned from driving on British roads for 18 months.

The court was told that Maureille was unsteady on his feet and his eyes were glazed when he was asked to get out of his lorry. He added that Beuret was found slumped over the wheel of his cab at the immigration freight controls.

But officials are aware that such a plan is unlikely to please television dealers and could require legislation, so the Home Office is consulting the BBC over other ways to deal with offenders.

But the fact such ideas are

being seriously discussed by the Home Office is added confirmation that the BBC faces a tough fight in obtaining a big fee increase.

Increasing the present maximum £400 fine for licence avoiders has been ruled out by Home Office officials.

Beaujolais lorry men found drunk

Two French lorry drivers bringing the first of this year's Beaujolais Nouveau into Britain from France were arrested at Dover Eastern Dock yesterday for drink-driving.

The men, René Maureille,

aged 41, of Dijon, and Jean

Beuret, aged 31, of Angiers,

were each fined £150 with £20

costs yesterday by Dover magistrates after pleading guilty to driving after consuming two and a half times the limit.

They were both banned from

driving on British roads for 18

months.

The court was told that

Maureille was unsteady on

his feet and his eyes were

glazed when he was asked to

get out of his lorry. He added

that Beuret was found slumped

over the wheel of his cab at

the immigration freight controls.

But officials are aware that

such a plan is unlikely to

please television dealers and

could require legislation, so

the Home Office is consulting

the BBC over other ways to

deal with offenders.

But the fact such ideas are

being seriously discussed by

the Home Office is added

confirmation that the BBC

faces a tough fight in obtain-

ing a big fee increase.

Increasing the present max-

imum £400 fine for licence

avoiders has been ruled out

by Home Office officials.



Virgin's travel offer to flight entertainers

By David Cross

Mr Richard Branson, the head of the cut-price airline, Virgin Atlantic, is to extend its provision of live entertainment on its transatlantic flights.

To date magicians, musicians, clairvoyants, and even a pearly queen have travelled with passengers to keep them amused during the airline's flights between Gatwick and Newark, New Jersey.

When questioned by the deputy coroner, Mr Michael Burgess, about the mental state of the actor, who would have celebrated his forty-fourth birthday on November 24, Mrs Webb said he had been very depressed after the illness and death of his wife, Miss Dors.

Mr Burgess recorded a verdict that Mr Lake took his own life while suffering from a depressive illness.

Mr Branson explained yesterday that the airline was interested in contacting any acts

that could perform in the limited space available on a Boeing 747. In return for their services, the entertainers would travel free of charge.

Virgin Atlantic also intended

its operations yesterday with a new service from London to Maastricht, southern Holland.

Allison's dismissal claim is rejected

Malcolm Allison lost his unfair dismissal claim against second division Middlesbrough Football Club, yesterday. Mr Allison, age 57, who was dismissed in March, "became the author of his own misfortune", the industrial tribunal chairman, Mr Basil Lauriston, said.

Mr Allison caused the rift with the board "and that rift eventually swallowed him", Mr Lauriston said.

"We are quite satisfied that no matter what warnings or consultations had taken place, it would not have changed the result one iota," Mr Lauriston said at the end of the four-day hearing in Middlesbrough. "He was 100 per cent to blame for his dismissal."

Mr Allison had claimed he was unfairly dismissed after refusing to sell players as part of a survival plan.

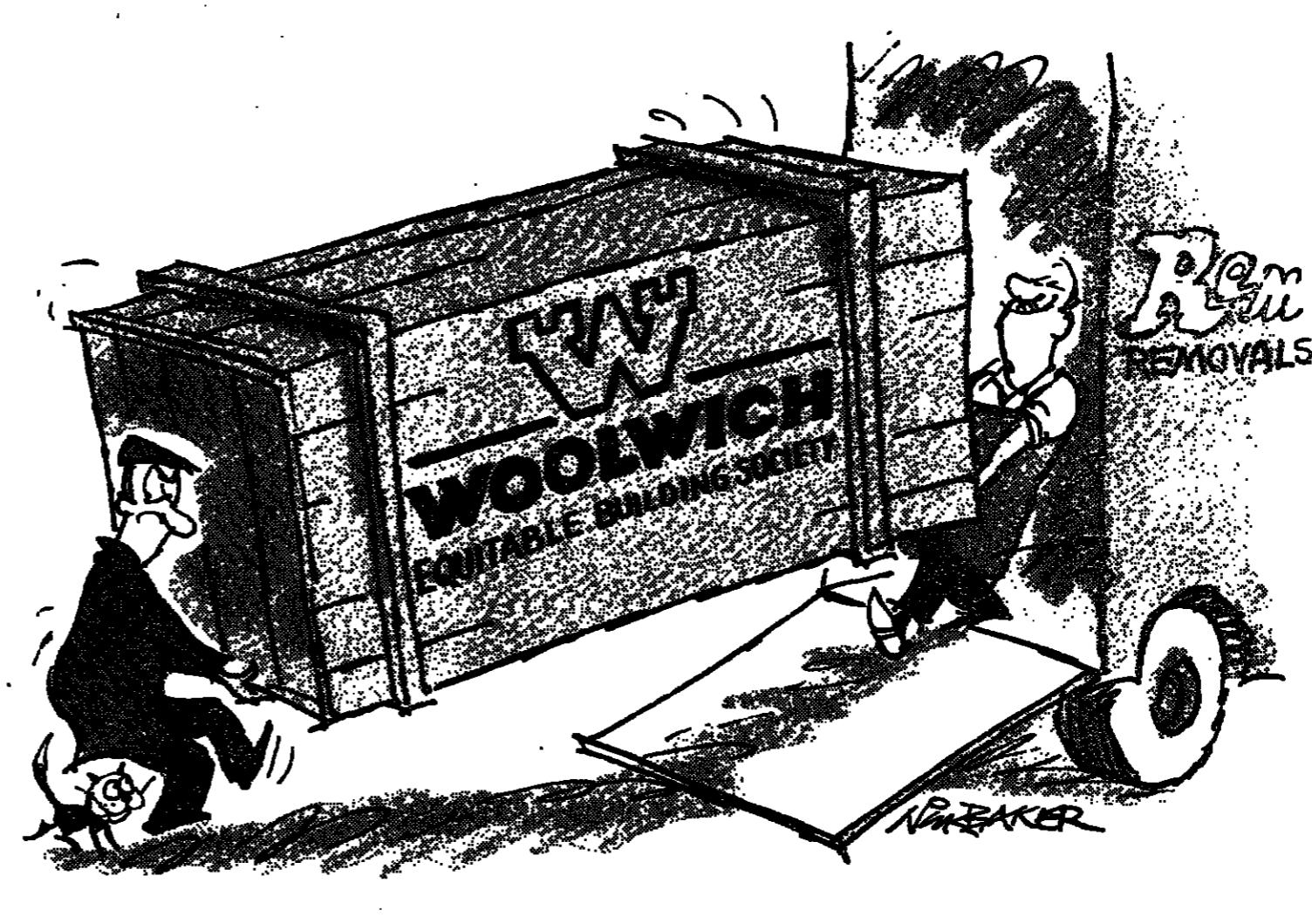
Mr Lauriston said Mr Allison had misled the club into believing he was trying to sell players to ease crippling financial difficulties. His contract included mention of bonuses to be paid on successful transfer sales, the tribunal was told.

"We have no doubt that he knew perfectly well that the club was relying on him to sell players."

Mr Lauriston said the club had the right and duty to manage. "They were in dire trouble. It is all very well to say that footbal clubs just do not fold. That may be some people's view and the view of history. But if you happen to be the board of directors standing there with bank specialists from London and eminent chartered accountants telling you otherwise, it seems perfectly reasonable that they should indeed be very worried."

"Mr Allison knew what was going on, but was shutting his heart to it and certainly shutting his heart from it. But he was under a duty to carry out these instructions."

The club said afterwards that it would not apply for costs.



Move in with the Woolwich.

Saving with the Woolwich makes sense for millions of people.

Whatever you're saving for, one of our schemes is sure to meet your needs. Whether you want an ordinary Share account, a 7 Day or 90 Day account, you can be sure of earning a highly competitive rate of interest.

As well as getting a good deal on your savings, it pays to move in with the Woolwich because when it comes to mortgages, there is just one basic rate of interest of 11.75%*, no matter how big your loan.

No other major building society makes saving for your mortgage more attractive.

Come and talk to us - there's a branch near you.

*New repayment mortgage rate.



WOOLWICH
EQUITABLE BUILDING SOCIETY

If you're really with it - you're with the Woolwich.

PARLIAMENT November 15 1984

NCB cannot go beyond deal with deputies

COAL DISPUTE

The National Coal Board could move no further in negotiations on the coal dispute, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during questions in the Commons. She was agreeing with Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, who had called upon her to make clear that there would be no question of reopening negotiations on the Nacods settlement.

She said that when the miners' strike ended the Government would have built a bridge between a responsible, reasonable and constructive trade unionism.

That comment was attacked by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, as a humbug and Mrs Thatcher retorted she could not give him any lessons in humbug on which he was a self-appointed expert. Mr Kinnock had echoed from a safe distance the condemnation of miners made at a NUM meeting by Mr Norman Willis, General Secretary of the TUC.

Mr Kinnock did not say the strike to go and do it himself, she said to loud Conservative cheers.

In the exchanges Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton N, C) urged her to do all she could to heal the wounds caused by eight months of the picket violence and Scargillism.

Mrs Thatcher: I welcome the condemnation of violence that have occurred in the last few days. I regret that it was not universal.

I know that on the strike ends, and I hope it ends very soon, we will have to do as much as we possibly can to build on moderate, responsible, reasonable and constructive trade unionism.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl Cymru) asked what steps the Prime Minister would take to help alleviate the social and economic consequences of the strike.

Mrs Thatcher: The Government has already provided the financial support so that the NCB is able to offer the miners a good wage increase, a guarantee that any miner who wishes to continue in the industry will be able to do so, an investment programme which will enable the industry to improve its productivity and increase its markets, and the creation of a new enterprise company to bring new businesses to mining communities.

Two of the three unions in the coal industry, as well as one third of the members of the NUM have already accepted the NCB's offer.

Since the beginning of last week more than 6,500 miners have returned to work. I hope those remaining on strike will follow their example.

Mr Wigley: The great solidarity shown in Wales with the coal miners arises out of the fact of communities that they will be wiped off the face of the map if mines close in those communities. The experience in getting other jobs to the valley communities under this Government had given them no confidence.

Trying to starve the miners back to work will not solve the basic problems which have caused the strike, but instead will add to bitterness.

Mrs Thatcher: Uneconomic pits have to be closed for a long time. That was my desire that the NCB to run and develop the coal industry efficiency. It was always understood that the closure of uneconomic pits was covered in the review procedure.

Some miners are at work in Wales; I hope their numbers will increase because most MPs on this side and many people in the coal industry want to get back to normal and earn good money, and get decisions made which need to be done and get work going on in the new enterprise company and bring in new jobs.

Mr Neil Kinnock: In view of her record, her answer to Mr Marlow will be regarded as complete humbug, inside and outside the House. If she genuinely wants a speedy end to the dispute and subsequent harmony in the coalfields and elsewhere, she will intervene to ensure that the four million tons cutback is withdrawn since that had made it redundant.

Will she also intervene to ensure that the colliery review procedure is fully restored in line with the Plan for Coal.

Mrs Thatcher: I cannot give him any lessons in humbug. (Laughter) what he has said indicates that he is a self-appointed expert.

He said things about a ballot at the beginning of the strike and that we have virtually nothing about it until a few days ago. It took a distinguished trade unionist to condemn violence at a mass

meeting of the NUM, and Mr Kinnock echoed it from a safe distance. Mr Kinnock did not have the guts to go and do it himself. (Uproar)

About the colliery review procedure, he knows that the coal board has always honoured that. I do not know why he says that again and again.

The settlement between the coal board and Nasods, the pit deputies union, was excellent, is on the table and I hope it will be picked up by those on strike.

Mr Kinnock: Once again she dodges into incidents, will she meet with the leadership of the NUM to explain . . . Conservative MPs You.

The Speaker (Bernard Weatherill): Order. This is a question of great importance to the House and the country.

Mr Kinnock: . . . to explain just how it is that after eight months in which she has allowed the costs of the dispute to go up to £3,000m she sustains the idea that the bit list should stay and that no other changes should be made and she still tells the country that she wants a peaceful end to the dispute?

Mrs Thatcher: I urge Mr Kinnock to look at the Nasods settlement. He will find the answer to what he has asked. He knows that all five pits will go through the colliery review procedure as enhanced in the Nacods settlement.

It is for the NCB and those on strike to come to a settlement as with Nasods. Will Mr Kinnock urge them to go back to work?

Conservative MPs Answer.

Mrs Thatcher: I made no such assertion as Mr Concannon implies. The miners who have gone back do so because they are loyal people, standing up for democracy and loyalty to the industry, and doing what is right.

At the Guildhall earlier this week, the Prime Minister seemed to imply that those miners going to work all through the strike and going back agreed with her and her policy and with Mr Marlow. Let me assure you that is not true.

The argument in Nottinghamshire is strongly one not in favour of implying recognition of her policies of those of the NCB.

Mrs Thatcher: I made no such assertion as Mr Concannon implies. The miners who have gone back do so because they are loyal people, standing up for democracy and loyalty to the industry, and doing what is right.

They are doing what most people want to do: earning an honest living to keep their families.



Grant Courage required
to go back to work

Callaghan plea for more funds

OVERSEAS AID

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, explained in the Commons that she could not negotiate this year's public expenditure review of the overseas aid budget.

Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab) appealed to her to reconsider the budget.

Many would like to return despite the strike being maintained by intimidation.

Mr David Owen, Leader of the SDP: The right of the Leader of the Labour Party and other Labour leaders as they seek to distance themselves from Arthur Scargill is reminiscent of rats leaving a sinking ship (Loud laughter with Labour and Conservative MPs pointing at him).

Far from taking any lessons from the Artful Dodger, will she make it clear that there will be no question of reopening negotiations on the PESC?

Mrs Thatcher: I agree that the NCB can move no further.

Mr Dan Cononan (Mansfield, Lab): My views on violence and intimidation have been on record for some time.

If Mr Callaghan will contain his impatience there may be a debate on this issue next week.

Later it was announced that there would be a debate on Thursday on overseas aid on a Liberal Party motion.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Film Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: New Towns and Urban Development Corporation Bill, second reading. Elections (Northern Ireland) Bill, remaining stages.

Wednesday: Civil Aviation Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Debate on Liberal Party motion on overseas aid.

Friday: Debate on Warnock committee report on human fertilisation and embryo.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Tuesday: Bankruptcy (Scotland) Bill and Family Law (Scotland) Bill, second readings. Debate on Nicaragua.

Wednesday: Debate on work of research councils.

Thursday: Food and Environment Protection Bill, second reading.

Lawson: Next Budget will be framed to cut unemployment

THE ECONOMY

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, assured the Commons that he will frame his next budget very firmly with a view to the best fiscal policy for maximising of lower inflation and rising employment.

He also indicated that the new regional development grant policy which will be announced later this month would be more job related than under the existing system.

However, he resisted the suggestion that the most difficult task on unemployment would be achieved by the private sector and the British Council, all of which are so important to our influence overseas, and to make another appraisal and come back to the Confederation of British Industry.

The effect of investment in the infrastructure on unemployment (the said) would be very slight indeed, even in the short term.

The Chancellor said that despite the miners' strike and events in the United States where interest rates had risen so sharply, the level of interest rates in Britain was no higher than at the time of the last election and wages were low.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs: What is his estimate of the course of unemployment over the next year?

Mr Lawson: Everything this Government is doing is designed to create the maximum opportunity for new jobs. I have made forecasts of unemployment and do not intend to make them now.

Mr John Morris (Aberavon, Lab): How does the Chancellor's statement that it has been a good year precisely affect the over 5,000 unemployed in my constituency and particularly those who have been unemployed for a long time?

Employment (continued) has risen by an estimated 250,000 over the year to June and is expected to continue to rise. But real wages grown less rapidly, employment would be rising faster and unemployment would not now be rising.

Jack Stack (Blackburn, Lab): Mr Lawson's answer shows a staggering complacency about the state of the economy. While in 1979 our performance on inflation as well as unemployment was the average of the seven major OECD countries, our performance now on inflation is still the average but our performance on unemployment and manufacturing output is the worst of any of our major competitors.

What does Mr Lawson believe manufacturing output will return to its 1979 level? It is 10 per cent behind that level now.

Mr Lawson: Since the general election to the latest available figures, unemployment was a regrettable 3.7 per cent in this country compared with 5.2 per cent in the rest of the European Community, employment was up 1 per cent whereas there was no increase at all in the rest of the Community, and GDP was 2.9 per cent up compared with only 1.5 per cent in the rest of the Community.

Mr Nigel Fossman (Carlisle and Workington, C): If we are to create enough new jobs to counteract the rise in unemployment, it will be necessary to give greater emphasis in the forthcoming budget to findings ways of lowering industry's costs to facilitate that process.

Mr Lawson: I agree that the next Budget, as was the last, with the abolition of the National Insurance surcharge and reform of corporation tax, must be framed in such a way as to encourage the creation of new jobs. That is why reductions, particularly direct taxation, are so important too.

Mr Jack Dornham (Easington, Lab): When will Mr Lawson stop giving credence to the myth that public borrowing in this country is

standards, their output is at all-time record levels and fixed investment is running at an all-time high.

I wish Labour MPs would give a balanced picture of the economy. We the Conservative Party perfectly relate to the acute problems of high unemployment. We make no secret of that. But among Labour MPs there is no readiness whatever to acknowledge that anything conceivable could be going right in the United Kingdom.

Mr Terence Davis, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs: if the Chancellor can increase this year's PSBR by £1,500m to fight the miners, why does he refuse to increase next year's PSBR to provide jobs for the unemployed?

Mr Lawson: Most people would reckon that the cost of keeping the power stations going despite the miners' strike is a cost well worth incurring. As for next year's PSBR,

that is why this Government's policy to create conditions in which interest rates can come down further is most important. The recent reduction in mortgage rates is a welcome indication.

Mr John Evans (St Helens, North, Lab): Can the Chancellor confirm that notwithstanding the level of investment in manufacturing industry, the Treasury confidently expects employment to fall in the manufacturing sector.

Will the Chancellor also acknowledge that while we have 3,250,000 benefit claimants in this country, there are over four million unemployed, many of whom used to work in manufacturing industry.

Mr Lawson: Manufacturing investment is on a clearly rising trend and the latest figures for manufacturing employment was that it now appeared to have stabilised and employment in manufacturing has been rising steadily since the mid-1960s.

Voters will have to carry means of identification

ULSTER

The scale of the problem of personalisation at elections in Northern Ireland had changed so dramatically in recent years that it amounted to a threat to the integrity of the electoral system, Mr Dennis Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said when moving the second reading of the Elections (Northern Ireland) Bill which will strengthen safeguards against the practice of voting as another person.

At the general election in June 1983, he said, some observers believed as much as 20 per cent of Sinn Fein vote was acquired by malpractice. The precise figure was difficult to assess but it was significant.

The Government had concluded the right course was to require voters to produce one of a number of specified documents. That system could be quickly applied, it would be effective and disrupt the traditional voting system to the least possible extent.

The Bill created an offence of having certain documents on polling day for the purposes of personalisation and gave police the necessary powers to search vehicles and premises on polling day. The new offence would attract penalties of up to two years imprisonment or a fine of £1,000.

The Government did not have a closed mind on the documents which might be prescribed. At present it thought the list should include the following: a current British and Northern Ireland driving licence; a current United Kingdom visitors or Republic of Ireland passport; a current code for the payment of all gas bills issued by the DPSS for Northern Ireland; a medical card issued by the Northern Ireland central services agency; a marriage certificate issued by the registrar general for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in the case of a woman married since 1970.

The Government had said it was puzzling that the Bill should be brought forward with so much notice. In what context and the manner of its presentation were redundant of bane and almost of panic which were bad counsellors in amending the fundamental law of the UK as it affected the representation of the people. There had not been a real consultation on the contents of the measure.

It was frequently stated that there had been an increase in abuse in the Province. But evidence to justify MPs in taking the proposed measures on the grounds that there was a growing process which had to be checked, and checked immediately despite the difficulties, had not been available. Mr Hurd had not produced any.

He was (he said) making the possession of a document which the citizen does not need to hold the condition of exercising his franchise.

It was a Bill which would be oppressive to the genuine elector, perhaps on a massive scale, without being effective.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, DUP) said if the Government dealt with the security situation and proscribed Sinn Fein there would not be any need for such legislation.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Friendly Societies Bill and Mineral Workers Bill, second readings.

Improved safety at work sought

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government had failed to recognise there was any problem over health and safety of employees in medium and small factories, offices and shops despite the fact that many of them had little or no medical cover. Lord Gregson (Lab) said when opening a debate in the House of Lords on a report on occupational health and hygiene

The report was against the imposition of statutory obligations on employers despite strong support for this from the TUC and the nursing profession. Instead it recommended encouraging employers to provide services voluntarily through a non-statutory code of practice.

In spite of a detailed exposition of the situation the Government and Health and Safety Commission failed to recognize any problem existed. The report was even borne out by a report of the Inspector of Factories.

As a result the Government argued that occupational health should not be considered part of primary medicine, but that was exactly what it was. The Government was also mistaken in concluding the report recommended the service should become part of the national health service when nothing could be further from the truth.

The Government had said it would be concerned if the volume of occupational health work became so great that it affected capacity of doctors to provide basic primary care services. But with so many doctors unemployed this would be an expensive means of providing new employment.

Lady Cox (C) said the Royal College of Nursing was concerned with the patchiness of provision of health and safety at work which ranged from the very good to the barely adequate to the non-existent.

The college was disappointed at the decision to opt for a voluntary code rather than a statutory one. Lady Cox said she calculated there were 180,000 factories in the country employing less than 100 people and in 90 per cent there was no medical cover other than a part-time first-aider. Of the 10,000 factories employing between 100 and 500 people, half had no adequate cover.

That meant there were around three million employees without proper medical cover. The report grouping them together so that doctors could deal with them in their own health sectors.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Friendly Societies Bill and Mineral Workers Bill, second readings.

SHOPS CAN WARM THEIR CUSTOMERS FOR 50% OFF.

And saved 50% on fuel costs.

From small shops to supermarkets all over the country the news is getting around about the new developments in gas. Business can definitely benefit from it, and save costs at the same time.

Minister insists industry chief be appointed to run health authority

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The West Midlands regional health authority is set for confrontation with Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, over his insistence that someone from business or industry be appointed manager of the authority.

Mr Clarke has finally rejected the region's recommendation that the job should go to Mr Kenneth Bales, its administrator, after he won the post in open competition with outside candidates.

The authority, which has more Conservative than Labour members, unanimously backed Mr Bales' appointment this month, despite pressure from Mr Clarke, after its selection panel had considered a further ten names, including unsuccessful candidates for chairman of the new management board.

Mr Clarke wrote to Mr James Ackers, chairman of the West Midlands region, saying: "I regret I am unable to approve the appointment of Mr Bales". The next step was for a meeting

"to discuss how the selection process can be reopened".

At a closed meeting on Wednesday, however, the authority unanimously reaffirmed its decision.

Mr Clarke has powers though to dismiss the authority and put in commissioners.

Senior authority members said they were stunned and apalled at Mr Clarke's decision, which seems to reflect increasing desperation to have at least one outsider appointed to the top general manager posts under the Griffiths reorganization of health service management.

Twelve of the 14 regional managers' jobs have gone to insiders, and the remaining region to appoint, East Anglia, is also under strong ministerial pressure to go outside, despite favouring its administrator, Mr James Stewart.

Mr Ackers, a close political colleague of Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Mr Clarke, the member said.

Inquiry on beached documents

By Michael Horsnell

Hundreds of Royal Navy papers washed up on a beach near the Portland naval base have proved to be obsolete declassified material, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday as a security scare subsided.

But the ministry already embarrassed by a missing log from the submarine HMS Conqueror, which sank the Argentine warship General Belgrano, has started an inquiry.

The security papers, from handbooks on automated tracking and plotting systems, were discovered on Wednesday by an unnamed private security consultant. They were strewn across a mile-long stretch of beach between Burton Hive and Freshwater Bay, Burton Bradstock, near Poole, Dorset.

They were thrown overboard from a Royal Navy ship in the Portland area and washed ashore by freak tide, wind, and currents, the ministry said.

A diving team from the base

gathered up the documents.

A ministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

The General Synod

Runcie favours women priests

The Archbishop of Canterbury gave his support yesterday to the appointment of women priests within the Church of England.

But Dr Robert Runcie said that for the sake of church unity any such radical change had to be gradual. The Archbishop, speaking during a debate at the General Synod on the ordination of women, indicated that despite his view he would vote against a motion to ordain women priests.

"I have been convinced that the arguments for the ordination of women now tip the balance favourably, but a decision by the Church of England depends upon more than archiepiscopal theological opinion. Against what all admit to be a radical change must be balanced both ecumenical reticence and the internal unity of the Church of England.

"I therefore urge the synod to adopt doctrine of gradualism as an argument of principle, not expediency."

Dr Runcie said that until the church had more experience of women deacons and women priests from abroad, he did not believe it could move with integrity to legislating for their ordination.

His comments could tip the balance. Members of the Synod, the governing body of the Church of England, are known to be deeply divided, although surveys have shown that most church members favour women priests.

This month 15 bishops wrote to *The Times* giving their support. In a letter published on Wednesday a former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan, added his support.

If the Synod votes in favour of women priests, that will lead to steps aimed at changing the legislation governing the ordination of priests, which could take several years.

In 1978, the Synod failed to return the majority required for a similar motion.

The Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowby, who moved the motion, said: "I want to argue that the only way to safeguard the doctrine of God in its fullness is to ordain women as well as men."

Evidence of how divided the Anglican Church is came with

Catholic bishops support doctors' petition on pill

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Roman Catholic bishops yesterday backed a petition by 2,000 doctors urging the General Medical Council to change its ruling that doctors can consult the parents of a girl under 16 about whether to prescribe contraception only if she gives her permission.

The Conference of Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, in a statement, said: "Parents' responsibility must not be undermined. Parents have a duty and a right to bring their children to moral and social maturity."

Professional people engaged in medical, social, educational, and juvenile justice services must respect and promote responsibility and frame their professional guidelines accordingly.

"This emphasis on parental responsibility is required, especially in those delicate moral

'Nuclear alert' was ticking geiger counter

Four fire appliances, nuclear health and safety physicists and the police went to Temple Mills railway marshalling yard at Stratford, east London, yesterday after a railwayman reported a ticking noise coming from one of two nuclear waste tanks on a train.

The police cordoned off the area around the train while people living locally were evacuated.

When the white corrugated cover of the carriage was lifted off it was found that a radioactive monitoring device, otherwise known as a geiger counter, had been left attached to one of the 48-ton tanks.

The Central Electricity Generating Board said someone had left it there after a routine safety check on the flask, which was empty. It had left Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant and was bound for Sizewell nuclear power station.

School outbreak

A hundred children at St John's Church of England School in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, have been affected by suspected salmonella poisoning

A shining example in private enterprise

By Alan Hamilton

City stockbrokers have taken a shine to Mr David McCann, whose business has grown by 900 per cent in two years.

The financiers are not yet quoting McCann shares on the Stock Exchange, nor even on the Unlisted Securities Market. He cleans their shoes. Two thousand pairs a week, usually with the feet still in them.

Mr McCann, aged 24, was an unemployed bus conductor when, in November, 1982, he walked into his local job centre in Hackney, East London, to discover an advertisement from an American businessman in London for someone to perform the kind of service to which he had become accustomed in Wall Street. A twice-weekly shoeshine at his desk while he worked.

Word spread. Encouraged by the American, Mr Gary Klesch, chairman of a Regent Street financial house, Mr McCann won sponsorship from a shoe polish manufacturer, who supplied polish and uniforms of red jacket and blue trousers, and he persuaded his father to make some shoe boxes. This week he recruited his ninth shoeshine boy.

Mr McCann is now advertising for staff at his job centre. His youngest shoeshine is 17, and had been unemployed for more than a year. The oldest is his brother Terry, aged 28. The boys charge 75p a shine, and pay Mr McCann a rental for putting the business their way.

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted but have since been superseded. They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

The handbooks from which they were torn were restricted

but have since been superseded.

They would normally be ditched ashore, but it is permissible to dispose of them at sea.

Space is at a premium on board ship, and of course paper is regarded as a fire risk."

Aministry spokesman said:

"They do not relate to weapons

systems and are obsolete, but the matter is nevertheless disturbing."

Peacock aims Liberal election manifesto at Australian families

From Tony Daboudin, Melbourne

Mr Andrew Peacock, the Leader of the Australian Opposition, made a strong pitch for the votes of the family man and small businessman when he launched the Liberal Party policy for the election on December 1.

He said that Australia had not been built by big governments or big unions or big business. "They played their part but the real Australian success story is the story of men and women who struggled hard against the odds, who got things going and who provided a better life for their children," he said.

"Our country was built by people who are sometimes referred to as 'ordinary Australians' but who are in fact the real heart of our nation."

Mr Peacock said that the Opposition had a vision for Australia "to match the challenge of the world we live in and it starts with the family".

He then commended his party, among other things, to:

- Cut income tax for families with children by allowing income splitting.
- Help the elderly by repealing Labour's asset test on pensions.
- Abolish the extra tax on superannuation lump sums.
- Restore choice in Medicare, the health care system.
- Start to restore defence spending cuts.

Give tax relief to small business, including a commitment to cut company tax from 46 cents to 41 cents in the dollar over a period of time.

ELECTIONS

The Melbourne rally, held in the open air, was watched by about 1,500 people and started with a drum-roll to announce Mr Peacock who emerged flanked by his wife Margaret and daughter Anne to an enthusiastic welcome.

There was little in Mr Peacock's policy document which had not been canvassed already in earlier releases and campaign speeches and there was no indication of overall cost. However, there were some initiatives particularly in

relation to small business and the young unemployed.

The Liberals said that they would set aside A\$25m (about £17m) in their first budget to reduce the company tax on small business.

For the young unemployed, the Liberals offer a new programme to be known as Worktrip to provide remedial training for the most disadvantaged unemployed under the age of 30.

This will be designed to improve the reading and writing skills of young people, increase their motivation, and provide work experience and competence of a kind which will improve the individual's chance of gaining stable employment," Mr Peacock said.

Mr Peacock also promised to cut the budget deficit and reduce interest rates, make radical changes to Australia's industrial relations system, abolish the Arbitration Commission, scrap the prices and incomes accord and encourage a return to wage bargaining between unions and business.

To finance income tax cuts, Mr Peacock said the Liberals would initiate a shift toward more indirect taxes, beginning in the first term of office.

The Liberal document is an all-out effort by the opposition to close the gulf between it and the labour government by aiming its policy at the moderate and conservative voter in that shifting middle ground which labour has successfully captured.

Tokyo guard on plutonium shipment

From David Watts
Tokyo

About 300 riot police stood by yesterday as a Japanese freighter arrived in Tokyo Port with a load of reprocessed nuclear fuel from France.

A security ship of the

Maritime Safety Agency ward off seaborne demonstrators as the Seishin Maru tied up after a 40-day voyage along a secret route which was continuously monitored by satellite for fear of terrorist attacks.

It is believed that Japanese sharpshooters were on board to repel any

assault during the vessel's voyage from Cherbourg with about 130,000lbs of plutonium dioxide.

Port security was strict as the plutonium was loaded on to six articulated lorries for transfer to the main Japanese nuclear research facility at Tokai Mura.

Ethiopia's drought victims wait for help to arrive



Brave smiles: Hungry refugees at the Mekele camp in Tigre province

Emergency spreads to Somali border

From Carol Berger
Addis Ababa

Lack of rain and the pressure of 300,000 returnees have prompted the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to lobby for international relief in south-eastern Ethiopia.

Harer, the vast semi-desert region bordering Somalia, has still to recover from the 1977-1978 Ogaden war. The Somali invasion of eastern Harer was in support of claims to what is called Greater Somalia. Six years after the Somali defeat at the hands of the combined forces of Cuban and Ethiopian troops, the area remains remote and torn by strife. In most areas south of the main town of Harer, only the towns along the main road are considered secure. Military convoys are used to reach the south and the eastern border areas.

Like the famine-stricken north, a sparse and insecure road network has left the region prone to pastoralistic rebels and insurrections from Somalia. It

also means that government and aid officials speak in terms of "the reachable" - those who live along the main roads or can reach those areas.

In 1983 the commission carried out a programme which registered 90,000 people who had come back to their home areas from Somalia. More than 3,500 families received livestock to assist their reintegration into home areas. The assistance brought a second wave of returnees at a time when food aid to refugees in Somalia was being cut.

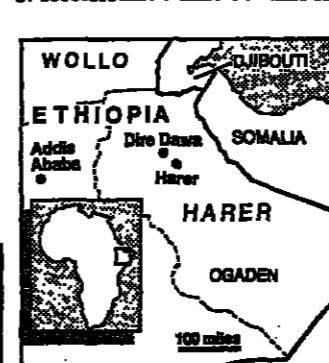
An exhaustive registration of returnees carried out in the past six months has now brought the number of returnees to 300,000. They have returned to join more than 500,000 people severely affected by drought. In the case of Wollo, in northern Ethiopia, there are no food reserves left.

The situation in the Harer region is not so grave, but the authorities are concerned that

the worsening conditions will bring yet another movement of refugees into Somalia.

The commission's mandate includes the assistance of returnees and refugees only. For the coming year the approved budget in Harer is only \$1m (£780,000) to assist 50,000 returnees. As aid officials say, to make any distinction between returnees and local people in need is nearly impossible. If aid does not reach the area, both returnees and those affected by drought will cross the border into Somalia and Djibouti.

Stabilization of the area will be set back even further. Somalia's continued support of secessionist ethnic Somalis in



WOLLO
ETHIOPIA
Addis Ababa
Dire Dawa
Harer
OGADEN
HARER

100 miles

the Ogaden has meant retaliation by Ethiopia through support of Somali dissident groups. As recently as late August a landmine set by rebels killed at least one person in southern Harer. During the same period, residents reported that the Somali-backed Western Somali Liberation Front had moved several hundred miles into Ethiopian territory.

The past year also has seen heavy clashes between the Ishaq people, who live on both sides of the north-eastern border with Somalia, and the Somali-speaking people of the Ogaden. There is speculation that the Ethiopian Government is supporting the Ishaq ag-

gression.

Contrary to announcements early this year, the substantial Cuban military force has not been withdrawn from Ethiopia. About 4,000 did depart in January, but up to 5,000 Cubans are still stationed in mainly northern Harer.

The Cuban military force played a decisive role in the Ethiopian victory of 1978. Today they carry out training of Ethiopian troops in northern Harer.

Aircraft have also delivered three five-ton lorries and 2.7 million blankets. The lorries help to distribute food among remote camps while the blankets go towards making fragile structures that shelter.

Yesterday one of the Hercules flew 700 miles south to Nairobi to fetch 10 tons of food, medical supplies and provisions for a team of 30 Save the Children Fund workers operating in the devastated Wollo region.

The RAF crews and their ground-support staff have no chance to see the results of their work, but the international passenger list of television crews and journalists who queue up to fly with them, assure them of how to airlift is helping to keep many thousands of people alive.

"It's satisfying work," said a sergeant from the Mobile Air Movements Squadron, known to themselves and others as the Muppets. "This is the sort of job we are trained to do but we don't often get the opportunity. We know the scale of the problem is colossal and we're very keen to give all the help we can."

RAF men figure out the benefits

From Thomson Prentice
Addis Ababa

It is impossible to calculate how many tens of thousands of bodies have been filled, bodies warmed and lives saved, so the RAF bookkeepers content themselves with columns of pounds and tonnes.

After 10 days of Operation Busbar, the famine relief airdrop based in a corner of Addis Ababa airport, the two elderly Hercules transport planes have delivered 1,309.38lb of grain to crowded feeding centres around the country. In a dawn-till-dusk operation, the planes shuttle between the capital and the port of Assab, from there to rough landing strips at Alkum, Mekelle and Asmara, and back again, three of four sorties a day.

Apart from the grain, which is ground at the centres, the

Appeal for EEC to cut red tape

There will be an inevitable need for a new effort to fight famine in Ethiopia from next March. Mr Edgard Pisani, the European Commissioner responsible for Third World policies, told the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday.

He said that a third consecutive year of drought was looming which would increase present problems.

He blamed himself for having failed in the past to make the Community understand the extent of the disaster. He pleaded to all members in future to cut through the red tape which significantly slowed and cut back aid programmes.

The Parliament approved an EEC aid budget for next year totalling £556.55m. It included £2.5m specifically designed to help charities to buy surplus grain at as much as 25 per cent below the market price.

Aircraft have also delivered three five-ton lorries and 2.7 million blankets. The lorries help to distribute food among remote camps while the blankets go towards making fragile structures that shelter.

Yesterday one of the Hercules flew 700 miles south to Nairobi to fetch 10 tons of food, medical supplies and provisions for a team of 30 Save the Children Fund workers operating in the devastated Wollo region.

The RAF crews and their ground-support staff have no chance to see the results of their work, but the international passenger list of television crews and journalists who queue up to fly with them, assure them of how to airlift is helping to keep many thousands of people alive.

"It's satisfying work," said a sergeant from the Mobile Air Movements Squadron, known to themselves and others as the Muppets. "This is the sort of job we are trained to do but we don't often get the opportunity. We know the scale of the problem is colossal and we're very keen to give all the help we can."

Letters, page 17

IF YOUR SECRETARY DOESN'T...

...know that her number one choice for Chauffeur Drive is Guy Salmon and that as well as our fully liveried chauffeurs being highly trained and experienced professionals there are many other reasons why so many businessmen use the Guy Salmon Chauffeur Service for so many occasions. Our fleet is one of the largest in the country with a wide choice of the latest limousines and luxury cars, all with air conditioning and distinctive in the finest Guy Salmon tradition. Our service which is available 24 hours a day, every day – our reputation for reliability and punctuality together with our extensive range of carefully selected tours. Add to this the immaculate presentation of all our cars and the immediate and courteous attention our staff always give to your needs...



...SHE SHOULD!

Your choice... Rolls Royce Silver Spirit, Daimler & Mercedes-Benz Limousines, Jaguar Sovereign, VW Executive Bus, Mercedes-Benz 280SE & 230E, Ford Granada Ghia.

Call UK Central Reservations

01-730 8571

**GUY
SALMON**

The finest service in chauffeur drive.

Vietnam crash orphans are awarded \$19m

Washington (AFP) — The US Government and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation have agreed to pay \$19.7m (£15.39m) to 78 Vietnamese orphans in Europe and Canada who were injured in the crash of a US military aircraft near Saigon in 1975.

The tentative agreement, made public yesterday in the US District Court here, needs the judge's approval before it can become final.

The case stems from the crash of a Lockheed-built US Air Force-operated CSA transport plane carrying 330 people, mostly infant orphans, from South Vietnam to homes in Europe and the US in what was termed Operation Babylift.

A total of 135 people, including 93 of the 247 orphans on board, died in the crash, which occurred 25 days before the fall of Saigon.

A US Air Force investigation showed that the crash occurred because a lock system failed and the aircraft's doors were blown off at 23,000 ft. The pilot crashed landed the plane in a rice paddy.

Under the terms of the settlement, Lockheed and the US Government will pay \$14.5m in cash to the orphans. Another \$2.5m will be placed in a trust fund for the most severely injured.

His remarks, made at a news conference in connection with the official visit of President Li Xianian of China, were quoted by newspapers here yesterday.

Mr Xuequan, accuses the Taipei Government of trying to hide Peking's proposal for a reunited China from the Taiwanese people.

Madrid — Taiwan can keep its own army and capitalist system if it becomes part of the Chinese People's Republic, Mr Wu Xuequan, China's Foreign Minister, said here. (Harry Debelius writes.)

His remarks, made at a news conference in connection with the official visit of President Li Xianian of China, were quoted by newspapers here yesterday.

Mr Xuequan, accuses the Taipei Government of trying to hide Peking's proposal for a reunited China from the Taiwanese people.

All smiles as Koreans turn the table

From Our Own Correspondent, Tokyo

The first economic talks between North and South Korea since the partition of the country ended on a high note in Panmunjom yesterday with an agreement to resume them next month and the promise of broader exchanges.

The Northern delegation went into the talks apparently determined to make them a success, the most solid sign yet that there is a substantial shift of policy under way in the North not only in opening up the economy but in dealing with the in-earlier bitter enemies.

Not even the South Korean delegation's mention of the Rangoon bombing took the smile off the faces of the Northern delegation led by Mr Li Sung Rok.

Seoul had promised not to raise political questions at the talks. They were careful not to blame Pyongyang for the outrage.

The second sign of the

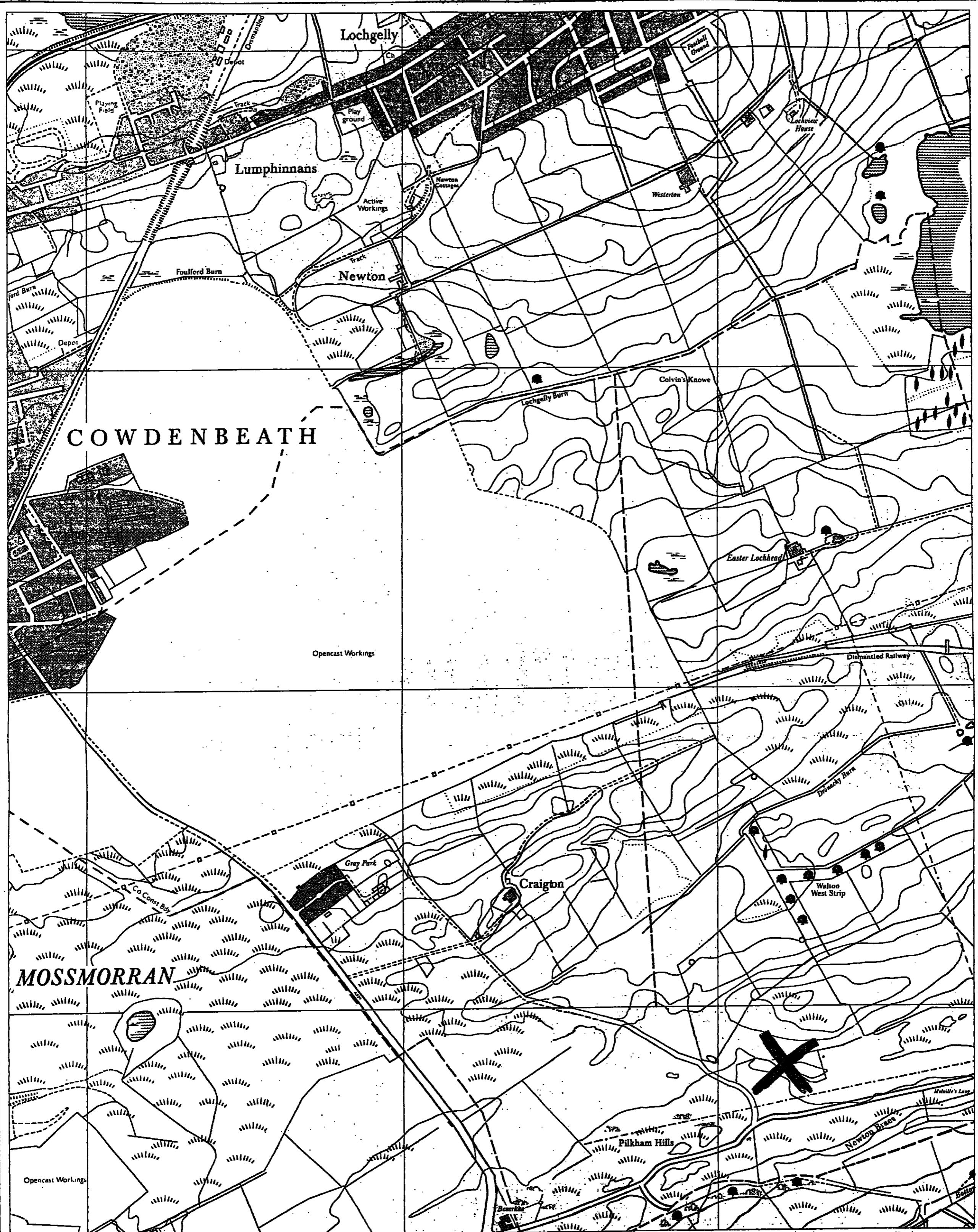
friendly atmosphere also permitted another first. Ever since the Panmunjom truce village was set up at the end of the Korean war delegates from North and South have met either side of a long table, decorated at each end with the flags of North and South, with the border between the two countries cutting straight through the centre of the table running East to West.

Yesterday, with seven rather than the usual five delegates on either side, the table was sawing through 90 degrees with the northern delegates unequivocally in the south and vice versa.

Mercedes-Benz 500 SEC super tested.
Porsche 924 and Mazda RX-7 test matched.
Lotus Esprit S3 road tested.
Plus hitching a ride in the ETC-winning Lancia Thema.
Jaguar XJS, first look at the Astra GTE.
BMW M35i/58i, and your chance to win a new Astra GTE.
December issue of your newsagent 99p

Fast Lane

BASED UPON THE ORDNANCE SURVEY 1:50 000 MAP WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CONTROLLER OF HMSO, CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED.



OPENING MOSSMORRAN COULD PROVE A LOT EASIER THAN FINDING IT.

'X' marks the spot where our new gas separation plant can be found. It cost £400m to construct, and this morning we're opening it.

Situated in the hills of Mossmorran in Fife, it is the largest and most technologically advanced plant of its kind in Europe.

At Mossmorran, the natural gas liquids from our fields in the North Sea will be split into ethane, propane, butane and natural gasoline.

Now, these valuable and important resources

can be put to good use, and will be of great benefit to this country for decades to come.

All of which may well be mentioned during the opening speeches this morning.

And if there is time, we'll also be talking about the environmental aspects of the plant. Such as how we built a 138 mile pipeline to feed it that is virtually undetectable.

Or how we designed the plant to fit, where possible, the contours of the countryside. The

enormous storage tanks, for example, have been surrounded by four man-made grass hillocks, and the lines of the pipes and buildings follow those of the hillside.

In fact, from many aspects you could be quite near and not even spot it.

Which is why we thought that our guests might like to hang on to this page. Just in case.

YOU CAN BE SURE OF SHELL



Commonwealth class of '84: A royal occasion for the High Commissioners



Commonwealth piles pressure on Britain to stay in Unesco

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Forty-two Commonwealth countries have made an eleventh hour appeal to Britain to remain in the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) after a crisis meeting in London.

But many feel their combined pressure will not dissuade the Government from joining the United States in deciding to give notice to quit.

Most of the high commissioners or their deputies based in Britain attended yesterday's meeting at New Zealand House, convened by their doyen in London, the High Commissioner for Swaziland.

They agreed to write to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, arguing for Britain to seek reform of Unesco from within. Their letter will follow a similar appeal earlier this

week by Mr Sonny Ramphal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, on behalf of his members.

The high commissioners noted that Britain has taken initiatives to begin the process of reform of Unesco, and these initiatives have had the full support of Commonwealth countries," a statement on the meeting said.

One official present emphasized that there was no animosity towards Britain at the meeting. "It was very constructive," he said.

The West German delegate to Unesco, Herr Alfred Vestring, should have been quoted yesterday as saying he was very unhappy, not happy, with the prospect of British and US withdrawal from the organization.

Los Angeles police seize 85-year-old Nazi Croat

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

Marshals and local police will guns drawn burst into the home of Mr Andrij Artukovic and arrested the Croatian exile aged 83, described as being one of the highest-ranking Nazi war criminals still living in the US.

The Justice Department has been trying for more than 30 years to deport Mr Artukovic, a Minister of the Interior and Justice in Nazi occupied Yugoslavia who has been accused by the present Yugoslav Government of complicity in the murder of about 770,000 Serbs and Jews during the Second World War.

Mr Neal Sher, Director of the Justice Department's office of special investigations, described Mr Artukovic as the Henrik Himmer of the wartime fascist regime in Yugoslavia.

Officials who went to Mr Artukovic's beachside home in the guarded community of Seal Beach, about 30 miles from Los Angeles took him into custody in an ambulance. He has reported to have suffered a series of strokes and to have heart condition. He was taken to Los Angeles County Hospital where during a 90-minute proceeding he was formally charged with murder and ordered to be held without bail pending a hearing

Absent were Pengiran Setia Raja Pengiran Haji Jaya (Brunei) and Dr Ho Guan Lim (Singapore).

MEPs challenge Council over Euro budget

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The European Parliament set a collision course with member states yesterday. It overwhelmingly rejected the rules for controlling Community spending which were agreed only this week by the Council of Ministers.

The rules as they stand do not involve the Parliament, and that has infuriated MEPs. Their motion yesterday, passed by 203 to 7, was to serve as a mandate for their leaders when they meet the Council next Wednesday to demand a real say in what is going on.

According to Mr Piet Dankert, the former President of the Parliament, the new rules were a blatant attempt to undermine their powers. Worse than that, they would fail to do what they set out to do - curb farm spending. The best thing about them was that they would be obsolete within a year.

It was clear from the debate that MEPs are now sufficiently enraged by the way they are being treated by the Council that they mean to use this power to reject the Community

Carrington says Nato is on target

Brussels (Reuter) - Nato's Secretary-General, Lord Carrington, responding to US criticism of European defence spending announced yesterday that seven West European allies would meet the alliance's goal of a 3 per cent real defence budget increase this year.

He gave the figure at a question-and-answer session with Nato parliamentarians in the North Atlantic Assembly.

Earlier, Senator William Roth, co-sponsor of a Congressional move to threaten US troop cuts in Europe unless the allies boost conventional defences, told reporters he was not satisfied with European efforts despite recent pledges of improvements.

Lord Carrington told the 184-member assembly: "It so happens that this year seven of the European countries in Nato... and perhaps eight... have achieved the 3 per cent target."

The officials offered no explanation of how so many allies managed to meet the target, while last year only three European Nato countries, Britain, Norway and Luxembourg, achieved 3 per cent growth.

The general rejected Israeli claims for securing its northern border from guerrilla attack. He spoke of the eagerness of the Lebanese people to be freed from the prison in which the Israeli occupation had been strangling them.

The hostile tone of his statement, which was quickly dismissed by reporters waiting in the headquarters of the UN peace-keeping force, dismayed the Israeli team. But Israeli sources later expressed the hope that it had been delivered mainly for consumption in the Arab world.

The criticism of the occupation was accompanied by the first presentation of Lebanon's

about the British contribution did not exist and pretended the old system's rebates still applied.

All this amounts to a budget which the Council is certain to slash and alter fundamentally when it is reviewed at the end of this month. That in turn means that Parliament, in its present angry mood, will refuse to agree a budget for 1985.

In practice that would have little effect on running the Community since the Commission would ask each month for payment from member states equivalent to one-twelfth of this year's budget. That would be almost as much as is likely to be available, even if the new budget is passed.

The rejection of the budget is the MEPs' chief weapon. In giving a first reading to the 1985 budget this week, MWP refused to accept the draft prepared by the Council, which will be enough to pay for only the first 10 months of the year.

They added an extra £750m to pay for farming, plus another £213m on other policies. Most controversially of all they pretended the new agreement

Pullout negotiations resume

Lebanese proposals astound Israel

From Christopher Walker, Naqoura

Negotiations on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon reopened here yesterday with deep disagreement over security for the occupied region and a formal demand by Lebanon for as much as \$10,000m (£7,800m) in war reparations.

The border crossing between Israel and Lebanon hear by was closed to civilian and commercial traffic as security was stepped up after renewed threats from Islamic extremists.

United Nations officials said that special catering arrangements had been instituted to prevent the chance of delegates being poisoned and the building was shrouded by armoured cars and sharpshooters from three nations.

Brigadier General Muhammad al-Haj, leader of the Lebanese delegation, opened proceedings with a bitter condemnation of Israel's policy in Lebanon, accusing it of wrecking the local economy and fermenting hostility between different communities.

He said that in addition to the devastation and destruction of towns and villages caused by the 1982 invasion, more than 1,000 Lebanese had been killed and more than 1,000 had been wounded.

The general rejected Israeli claims for securing its northern border from guerrilla attack. He spoke of the eagerness of the Lebanese people to be freed from the prison in which the Israeli occupation had been strangling them.

The hostile tone of his statement, which was quickly dismissed by reporters waiting in the headquarters of the UN peace-keeping force, dismayed the Israeli team. But Israeli sources later expressed the hope that it had been delivered mainly for consumption in the Arab world.

The criticism of the occupation was accompanied by the first presentation of Lebanon's

Church schools in Malta to open on Monday

Valetta: Malta's 78 church schools will reopen on Monday after an interim agreement between the Archbishop Joseph Mercieca and the Prime Minister, Mr Dom Mintoff (our Correspondent writes).

As a sign of goodwill and to prepare for talks between the two sides, no fees will be charged until the end of the scholastic year.

The schools did not reopen as usual on October 1 after the Government's refusal to issue a licence for eight of them unless they provided free education.

Police take assassin from hospital for interrogation

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

The surviving assassin of Mrs Indira Gandhi was formally arrested yesterday as he was taken out of the Ram Manohar Lohia hospital where he has been recovering from bullet wounds.

Police Constable Satwant Singh was shot by other members of the Prime Minister's guard and was taken to the hospital close to the administrative centre of New Delhi in the ambulance on stand-by at her residence.

Other sources, however, claimed that he was in a special security cell in the south of Delhi, close to the village built for the Asian Games in 1982, or

else that he was in a well-guarded hospital in the military cantonment on the west of the city.

He was officially described as fit by his doctors, but they were unwilling to commit themselves as to how well he would stand up to interrogation.

Newspapers in the capital have been diverting their readers with "exclusive" disclosures about what Satwant Singh has been telling his captors.

For example, the *Hindustan Times*, says that "reliable sources" attribute a disclosure to Satwant Singh that the

2,000 held in Chilean army swoop

Santiago (Reuter) - Chilean troops swept through a working class suburb of Santiago yesterday, arresting all men aged 15 to 55 in the second such raid since President Pinochet declared a state of siege last week.

Witnesses estimated that about 2,000 men were detained in the swoop on La Victoria, a centre of anti-government protests, and taken to a football stadium in police buses.

Legislation to punish people who give blood when they know they are suffering from AIDS was later being drawn up and health officials were trying to locate more blood donated by the unnamed man.

The babies died in September and October at Mater Hospital in Brisbane after showing signs of AIDS and discovery of the common source of the blood they received was made only this week.

North Koreans help Uganda

Nairobi (Reuter) - More than 200 North Korean troops have arrived in Uganda to help Government forces to rout insurgents from their strongholds, diplomatic sources in Kampala said.

The troops arrived in two planes at Entebbe airport on Tuesday, the sources said. They were taken to camps in the troubled Luwero district 40 miles north of the capital.

Hitler diaries man released

Hamburg (AP) - The confessed Hitler diaries forger Herr Konrad Kujau, aged 46, facing trial on fraud charges, was freed yesterday after 18 months in jail. No bail was required.

Prosecutors immediately appealed against the surprise decision and a ruling is expected within a few days. Several earlier applications for his release failed.

Record haul

Mexico City (Reuter) - Mexican police seized a record 13,000 tonnes of marijuana and freed some 7,000 peasants held as slaves, the Attorney General's office said. The peasants had been forced to work on ranches where the marijuana was grown, dried and packed for sale in the United States.

Lawyer defects

Stockholm - Mr Hillar Raig, a 38-year-old lawyer and second secretary of the Soviet youth organization, Komsomol, in the Estonian town of Saku, asked for political asylum in Sweden after defecting during an official visit to Finland and taking the ferry to Stockholm.

Dali improves

Figueras (Reuter) - The Spanish surrealist painter, Salvador Dali, aged 80, has gained weight and overcome his horror of daylight since moving into a new home. He left hospital four weeks ago after treatment for burns.

Shuttle pledge

Washington - As astronauts board the Discovery shuttle prepared for their return to Earth today, President Reagan promised them his support for future space ventures in a call from the White House.

Miners killed

Johannesburg (AP) - Three black miners were killed, 12 were injured and two are still missing after an underground rock burst at the Kloof gold mine south-west of here, a company spokesman said.

Gangbusters

Peking (AP) - Police nabbed a gang of 66 robbers and rapists in the northeastern city of Harbin, confiscating 26,000 yuan (about £8,500) in cash - 30 times an average annual salary - as well as a homemade pistol, daggers, two motor cycles, watches, cameras and appliances.

THE HEADLINES HAVE STOPPED BUT THE DYING GOES ON.

Don't waste the progress we've made.

NOW The world knows about starving Ethiopia. Governments have been pushed into action. Airlifts have begun, grain is going in. So far, so good, progress is lost.

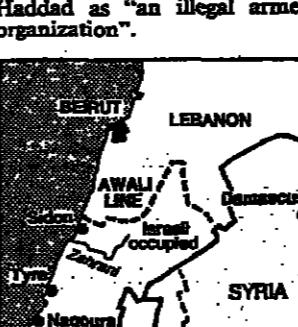
We still need funds to turn the tide of death in Ethiopia. And to stem it in Kenya, in Mozambique, in Ghana and the Sahel. World Vision people are in all these places putting your cash help to immediate use in dragging lives back from the brink while working also to tackle the causes that could so easily make it all happen again. If you gave before, give again... And be quick. Your neighbours' children are dying.

£10 means supplementary feeding to 3 more little children £25 gets a jumbo load of food to a hungry village £100 just fuels a Twin Otter plane for one mercy drop.

Here is my cheque made out to World Vision for £ Name M Address To World Vision, 8 Abington St, Northampton NN1 2AJ Reg. Charity No: 285308

Africa starves

WORLD VISION
Practical Christian Caring



10 miles

Commentary

Spain looks into Flick payment reports despite González denial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Spanish Parliament is to investigate allegations that money from the West German Flick industrial concern helped to finance Spain's Socialist election victory as part of an inquiry into the financing of all political parties.

The decision came after Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister and Secretary General of the Socialist Party, categorically denied that his or his party had received any money from the Flick group or West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) after 1977, when all Spain's parties were legalized.

Socialist and Opposition parliamentary leaders yesterday were settling the details of an all-party investigating committee due to report in the next six months.

Señor González has not received a single Deutsch mark or peso and I shall never have to rectify this statement," the Prime Minister told a hushed session of Parliament broadcast by the state radio and television.

The possible ramifications of the Flick affair have embarrassed the Socialists, who swept to power two years ago promising to clean up public and political life after 40 years of favouritism and hushed-up scandals during the Franco era.

For millions of ordinary voters

Señor González offered a new ethical style. His party had campaigned with an election slogan: "One hundred years of honesty".

At the Prime Minister's behest, the Director of Public Prosecutions already is investigating the initial allegations, picked up by *La Vanguardia*, the Barcelona conservative daily, from the German magazine Hans-Jürgen Wischniewsky treasurer of the SPD, personally handed some of the money his party had earlier received from Flick to Señor González in Madrid.

Señor González presented in Parliament a statement on oath by Herr Wischniewsky that the allegations were unfounded. The Prime Minister was challenged to start legal proceedings in a West German court to clear his name, something he said he would consider after the parliamentary investigation.

In spite of Señor González's denials, the small minority who follow their country's politics closely appear disillusioned at the idea that Spain's new political class may be no better than their contemporaries in other European countries.

The Opposition is content that something of the allegations will stick, and that the Socialist image has been dented.

Flick's last reel, page 15

Geoffrey Smith

Mr Grigory Romanov, one of the most powerful leaders in the Soviet Union, read the riot act to the Finnish Communists a few weeks ago, castigating them for their disunity. Above all, he said, they must not split into two separate parties. Yet the chances have increased since his visit that that is precisely what they will do.

The episode is illuminating for the light it casts on the Soviet attitude towards Communist parties abroad, on the way in which the Soviet Union tries periodically to exercise pressure on Finnish politics, and Finnish feelings.

From time to time there has been a bitter division within the Finnish Communist Party between revisionists and Stalinists, with the moderate majority seizing control. The exclusion of the hardliners from all the seats of power has upset the Kremlin, but so has the weakening of the party as a force in Finnish politics.

It is no longer part of the governing coalition and has been losing ground steadily for some time. Once the largest single party in the country, it now stands no higher than fourth.

The 'pastoral letter' made a more sinister accusation

But the "pastoral letter" that Mr Romanov brought from Moscow made a more sinister accusation: that "certain members of the party leadership...have recently made numerous statements...aimed at undermining the confidence felt by Finnish workers and the people of Finland in Soviet policy".

It went on to give specific warning that if the party were to disintegrate "it would then be easier for right-wing circles to undermine the joint positions of those forces that support President Mauno Koivisto's foreign policy line, a line aimed at cooperation and friendship with the Soviet Union."

This linking of the internal troubles of the Finnish Communist Party with relations between Finland and the Soviet Union naturally attracted attention. It meant that Moscow is sending two signals: one clear, the other in code.

The clear message was addressed to the party, particularly the moderate majority. The two wings were under orders to sink their differences forthwith. This has met so far with robust response.

When I was in Helsinki shortly after Mr Romanov's visit I took the opportunity to see Mr Arvo Aalto, the revisionist chairman of the party, a man four-square in appearance and in manner. "We are the Communist Party of a small nation," he said. "We are the Communist Party of Finland, we stand on our soil, we have strong ties to the Finnish people, we are ready to receive letters, but we will make our own decisions."

These words had the ring of a Finnish patriot. I was not surprised to learn that subsequently the majority wing has decided to set up a parallel organization of its own in those areas where the Stalinists are dominant, which is a further step towards separation. It now looks as if the central committee meeting next month may be decisive in determining whether the party holds together.

The coded message directed to all Finnish politicians

But Mr Romanov's letter also contained a coded message directed to all politicians in Finland, irrespective of party. It was to the effect that neither the Communist Party under its present leadership, nor the moderates as a separate party if there is a split, would be regarded by Moscow as acceptable members of a future Finnish government.

This is by no means the first time that Soviet leaders have sought to influence the composition of a Finnish administration. For some years before 1966 the Social Democrats were blackballed on foreign policy grounds. When a minority government was formed in 1982 under the leadership of a Social Democrat, Moscow imposed a freeze on nearly all aspects of Finnish-Soviet relations until the Government resigned.

The warning that it would be risky to give office to those blackballed by Moscow was not missed in Helsinki.

Whether a Soviet veto would still be effective today is unlikely to be put to the test soon because the Communists are not winning enough seats to merit inclusion. But it is interesting that it should be a wing of the Communist Party that should now attract this particular mark of disfavour from Moscow.



Mrs Peters: Four-letter words and fury

Svetlana hits at TV men

Moscow (Reuters) - Josef Stalin's daughter, Mrs Svetlana Peters abused Western newsmen who approached her on a Moscow street yesterday but hinted she might soon give a press conference to explain her reasons for returning to the Soviet Union.

She aimed four-letter words at a US television team who tried to ask how she was faring in Moscow and she refused to answer any questions.

"You are savages, you are uncivilized people," she shouted. "I'm living in a society where private publicity is not done. I'm going to obey the rules, leave me alone."

"If there will be a place to talk with you it will be a special place provided, not on the street... you will be invited if it will be decided, and then we will talk," she said.

Mrs Peters and her American-born daughter Olga, 13, have been staying in the Government's Sovietskaya hotel since she returned.

More labour unrest feared

Employers condemn Pretoria's arrests of union leaders

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

In an unprecedented show of solidarity with black trade unions, South African industrialists and businessmen have publicly condemned the wave of arrests of trade unionists and others opposed to the Government's apartheid policy.

In a joint statement the country's three main business organisations, the Afrikaans Handelsinstitut, the Federated Chamber of Industries and the Association of South African Chambers of Commerce, said they were deeply concerned by the detentions "at a sensitive time such as the present". Such action, they said, was bound to exacerbate labour unrest.

The statement was prompted by the arrests of 15 people in the past week, including the leaders of the two main black trade union federations, the 150,000-member Council of South African Unions and the 110,000-member Federation of South African Trade Unions.

The two trade union groups were the chief organizers of a two-day work stoppage last week in the Transvaal in support of black political and economic demands. The strike has alarmed the business community, which fears that, in the absence of effective black political rights, trade unions could increasingly become the channel for venting generalized anger at the apartheid system.

According to figures collated by the South African Institute of Race Relations, an independent liberal research body, and the detainees' Parents' Support Committee, which was formed

several years ago by the families of those held by the security police, 1,038 people have been detained so far this year under the security legislation.

They say the detentions are the "worst wave of repression since 1976, reminiscent of the post-Sharpville state of emergency". In 1976 there were uprisings in Soweto and elsewhere. In 1960 a state of emergency was declared, and many black organizations were banned, after 69 Africans demonstrating in Sharpville against apartheid laws were shot dead by the police.

It is estimated that there are about 220 people in security

Most of the detainees are held under either Section 29 or Section 28 of the Internal Security Act. The first permits indefinite detention for interrogation, and the second indefinite "preventive detention" of persons deemed to be an actual or potential threat to law and order. There is no legal appeal against such detention.

Crocker meeting clue to progress on Namibia

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

South Africa and the United States began talks in Pretoria yesterday, which should give a clearer indication whether optimism about prospects for peace in the conflict over South African-occupied Namibia is justified.

The American delegation is led by Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, and the South African negotiators by Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, General Magnus Malan, Minister of Defence, and other officials.

On the eve of the talks, expected to end later today, Mr Botha said South Africa's

response to recent peace proposals by Angola, including a phased withdrawal of Cuban troops stationed in that country, would be "conveyed and explained" to the Americans.

Pretoria is likely to raise objections to the proposed timing of the withdrawal. Angola says it will start to send the estimated 25,000 Cubans home only when South African forces in Namibia have been reduced to 1,500.

Step nearer link across Channel

From Diana Geddes Paris

An important new step has been taken toward the realization of a cross-channel "fixed-link", whether tunnel or bridge, with the announcement yesterday that the French and British Governments have agreed to set up a joint working group to draw up guidelines by which they will assess potential projects.

The agreement was reached by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the British Minister of Transport, and M. Paul Quiles, French Minister for Housing.

The French are pleased by what they see as the first clear affirmation by the British Government that they wish to proceed with the project, while the British are pleased by an apparent shift in the former French position that some public money must be involved.

The joint communiqué states clearly that the project "should be financed without support from public funds or government-financed guarantees, and on the basis of conditions prevailing on the international financial markets."

At the same time, the two ministers agreed that "essential political guarantees would be provided", indicating that private promoters would be compensated for any loss caused by actions by Governments, such as a unilateral withdrawal from the project by one side or the other.

At the same time, the two ministers agreed that "essential political guarantees would be provided", indicating that private promoters would be compensated for any loss caused by actions by Governments, such as a unilateral withdrawal from the project by one side or the other.

Don Gaetano Badalamenti, the alleged chief of a Mafia heroin ring who has been imprisoned in Spain since April, will be extradited to the US over the next few days. Sources in Palermo, Sicily, said Signor Badalamenti, whose Mafia family was badly hit in clan war, would probably turn supergrass like the godfather Signor Tommaso Buscetta.

Yugoslav group to fight against political trials

Nineteen distinguished Yugoslav men of letters, art and science have set up a committee to defend freedom of thought and expression. It has pledged to take up all cases of people being tried for their beliefs.

The committee's voices concern about ever-more frequent trials of people for their beliefs which they said, were becoming an ideological and "legitimate method" of the authorities against all who do not hold identical opinions.

Formation of the committee was clearly in response to the trial of six dissidents on charges of trying to overthrow the Government. Yesterday the hearing was suspended here after one of the defence lawyers was physically ejected from the court on the orders of the judge.

£399.95

Ferguson 3V38 VHS VCR 13 day timer, 9 x normal speed picture search, pause picture with frame advance, front loading. At £399.95, you've got to see it to believe it. (Plus Hitachi, Akai, JVC, Toshiba, Fisher, Sharp, Sanyo, Sony.)

£289.95

Creda Hallmark - 49502 Freestanding Cooker Slimline double oven (only 20" wide), both with Creda clean liners' big main oven that'll take a 26lb turkey, dual circuit grill, staggered radiant rings on the hob, sealed spillage area, easy to read controls with auto-timer, minute minder and clock, rear rollers for easy mobility. First we cut the price - £289.95 - then we throw in a free set of 6 Prestige Kitchen Knives. (Plus Tricity, Zanussi and an attractive range o gas cookers.)

£124.95

Tricity Trend 62400 Upright Freezer Slimline (under 20" wide) with 72lb of 4 star surface. 3 shelves, adjustable thermostat, energy-saving compressor. As a cool £124.95 it's a perfect match for the Tricity Trend 31500 ladder fridge. (Plus Zanussi, Philips, Candy, Osby, Hotpoint.)

£499.95

Fidelity AVS 2000 Remote Control Audio Visual System 20" monitor CTV with stereo sound, full infra red remote control, motorised sliding drawer turntable, L/W/M/W.

Stereo VHF tuner, 24 watts total music power output, cassette deck records sound of CTV, turntable, two-way speakers, teak-effect cabinet on castors with glass doors and storage space. At £499.95, you won't believe your eyes or your ears.

Connect is the new electrical store. And it's a brighter place to shop. Not only do you get all the top names with the Connect Price Promise.

But you can even start your holiday here. (We give £50 off a choice of holidays with every purchase over £200 upto December 1st 1984.)

We offer credit, guarantees, insurance and breakdown cover schemes. Plus fast delivery, installation and an after-sales service that's second to none at each of our 200 Connect stores nationwide.

For your nearest store ring Teledata on 01-200 0200. You'll soon see why it's a brighter place to shop.

Hoover A3350 Energy Control Washer 'Energy control', superfast 1100rpm spin for a drier wash. Half load button, 'quick wash' in 30 minutes, twin temperature control for low temperature wash, unique 'creasguard' action. And at £299.95, the price won't put you in a lather. (Plus Hotpoint, Zanussi, Bendix, Philips, Servis, Creda, Candy, Ariston.)

£299.95

Zanussi 1142 - Refrigerator 5.0cu.ft. gross capacity; push-button defrost; interior light, adjustable shelving, 2 star freezer; metal worktop, reversible door. And at £99.95 the price won't make you shiver. (Plus LEC, Tricity, Philips, Indesit, Hotpoint.)

£99.95

Hitachi CPT1471 14" CTV Portable, metallic silver finish, 8 pre-selected channels, carrying handle, headphone socket. At £189.95, its compulsive viewing. (Plus Ferguson, Philips, Toshiba, Sony, Grundig, Decca, Fidelity.)

£189.95

Sanyo GXT210 Twin Cassette Hi-fi - £219.95. Found out the music with the Sanyo GXT210 Hi-fi system, belt-drive, semi-auto turntable with straight tone arm, twin cassette decks with metal tape compatibility, L/W/M/W/Stereo VHF tuner, 5 band graphic equaliser and 20 watts RMS total output. All housed in a rosewood cabinet on castors with glass door and lid complete with matching speakers. And at £219.95 the price sounds just as good. (Plus Pioneer, JVC, Amstrad, Fisher, Fidelity, Akai, Sony, Sharp, Sennheiser.)

£219.95

WHEN OUR RIVALS SEE WHAT WE'RE OFFERING THEY'LL BLOW A FUSE.

PRE-CHRISTMAS SPECIALS EX-DEMONSTRATION AND USED COLOUR TVs FROM £79.89 AND VIDEOS FROM £179.89

FREE £50 HOLIDAY VOUCHER ON PURCHASES OVER £200

FREE PLUG & SCREWDRIVER WITH EVERY ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE YOU BUY



IT'S A BRIGHTER PLACE TO SHOP

Stocks of some items may not be available in certain stores particularly when demand is high. All prices correct at time of going to press. *APR 29.8% (Variable). Written details of credit facilities and credit insurance available on request from any Connect branch or from Telefusion PLC, Preston New Road, Blackpool, Tel 68111. Credit facilities through Lloyds Bowmaker Finance Group. There will be a small charge for delivery and installation. Written details on breakdown cover schemes available at all Connect branches.

If you can buy at a lower price locally within 7 days, and the item is in stock, we'll make up the difference.

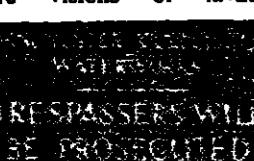
SPECTRUM

Funny man Mike Harding has a new role as president of the Ramblers' Association. Alan Franks heard how he will fight for walkers' rights in the countryside

Enter the comic crusader

For the Ramblers' Association to have made the northern comic Mike Harding its president, in succession to Lord Melchett, looks like a move from the sublime to the ridiculous; the swapping of a baron for a bawdy.

When the appointment was first mooted there were murmurings of dismay from the association's senior membership, which does have its share of tweed venerables. There were visions of lavatory



Keep out: A 1930s sign

humour from the rostrum of the AGM, and fears that the RA would be open to charges of simmickry. A closer look at Harding's preoccupations might not have allayed the worries, for his songs and his patter show few signs of love for the politician, a breed with whom the association, like say other

pressure group, is compelled to trade.

Only a still closer look would have brought reassurance; the ramblers now have for their figurehead a committed long-distance walker, and a daleman with a deep knowledge of the politics of the countryside. If he is something of a radical and an anti-authoritarian, there is an honourable tradition of such things in the Englishman's battles for pedestrian access.

The period of Harding's tenure of the presidency, which runs until mid-1987, is likely to see two misconceptions disappear: first, that walkers are, to use his own words, "a bunch of knock-kneed old men and women who don great big boots and ex-Army rucksacks for a Sunday afternoon stroll"; and second, that he is simply a stage northerner hired to do a David Bellamy job on the fells.

"As a media person - sorry about that phrase, but it's true - I know I can help increase the membership", he says. "I can also help to present the image of rambling in its proper light. I don't think it should matter what sort of person you are



Mike Harding, left, hits the trail. Pictured top right, is the mass trespass of Kinder Scout, Derbyshire, in April 1932, when 400 hikers protested about lack of access to the then private grouse moor. Bottom right the warning notice which subsequently appeared in the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*.

in professional terms, but rather what you think about the issues involved."

His thoughts about the issues are unequivocal: "Forty tons of the Peak District leaves it every ten minutes, thanks to the limestone quarrying. In Ribblesdale there are four quarries spread over an area of six miles. The effect is quite unbelievable.

"Take the quarry at Horton in Ribblesdale. This takes the purest possible limestone and, instead of using it for the chemicals industry, it distributes it for use as ordinary road ballast. It's all down to purely economic priorities, because it's cheaper just to blast the stuff off

know that the quarry provides local jobs - something like 80 people plus all the ancillary labour - and I'm the last person to want to take work away from anyone. But look at it this way:

if someone said: 'There's all this magnesium dioxide in the stones of Balmoral Castle and we could really use it for rocket nose-cones,' there would be an outcry. And quite rightly. So why do we let a company come in and blow away bits of what is just as much a national monument?"

As a performer, Harding, now 40, has emerged from the same folk music school that produced Jake Thackray, Billy Connolly and Jasper Carroll. As

with the last two, the songs

gradually lost their primacy in the programme, and the chat linking the numbers grew into the *raison d'être* of the routine. Tempting therefore to assume that he is about to use part of his act for proselytizing purposes.

"No, that's not quite true. I'd far rather make people laugh than cry. OK, when I do my national tour next year, between February and May, I'll put in a plug for the association. And, yes, I intend to write a song for an old friend of mine, Tony Hardman, a great rambler, who was killed on Loughrigg."

On the evidence then, the choice of Harding for president is not so much eccentric as inspired, and consistent with

the populist approach of the RA's young secretary, Alan Mattingly. After all, Lord Melchett, Eton and Cambridge notwithstanding, was chairman of the working party on pop festivals in 1975.

Already, Harding says, his approach to conservation has lost him a few friends in the local near his cottage at the foot of Pennington. "Ah, but you have to remember they're quarrymen. They've got their jobs to think of, and I understand that. It's a valid point."

There is this conflict between those who live and work in the National Parks, and the nation's claim on its open spaces. Take the Dales again,

Until 20 or 30 years ago, all the quarrying was done on a human scale. Just three or four blokes. And if you took look at those places, they could almost be natural features in the landscape. But now there's been a fantastic raising of the pace... it seems to me that the National Parks committees are powerless in everything except deciding on, I don't know, the shape of new windows in private houses."

Harding's own remit as president does not run to drawing up a ramblers' manifesto. But if it did, one could be certain that it would hinge on an increase in government subsidies for rural conservation, and a coordinated national plan

for the parks. He is well aware that walking now stands in the first division of leisure pursuits, a fact underlined by the rise this autumn of a book by the Cumbrian mountaineer Alfred Wainwright to the top of the best-seller list.

About three and a half months of Harding's year are spent on the road "to pay the rent." The rest of the time is split between writing books, broadcasting, and rambling.



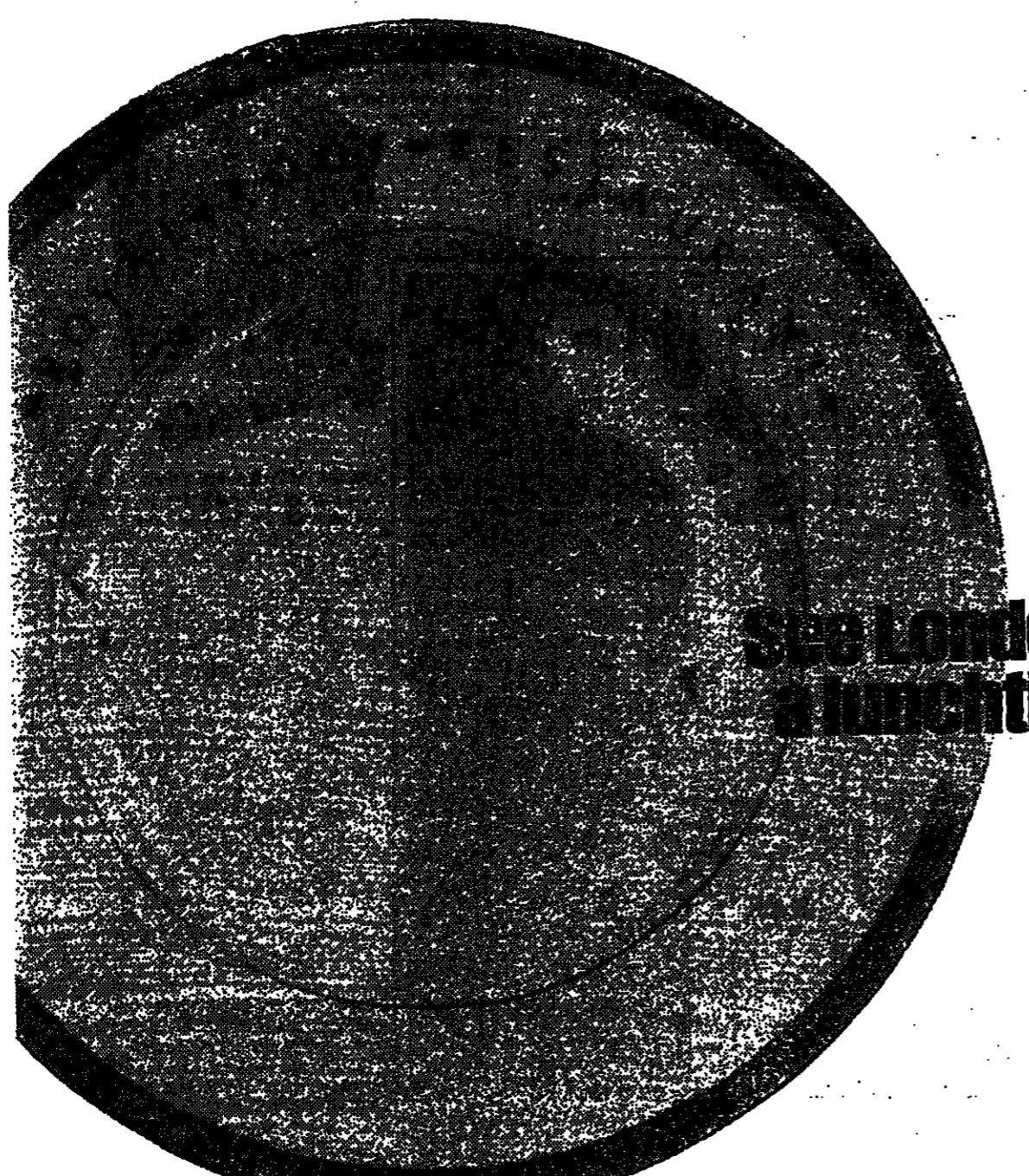
Come in: The 1980s way

This year he has spent about 40 nights out, all the while amassing whether he intends to or not, material for his next series of shows. Round his waist as he trudges is a camera, for he is also a keen photographer.

And joker. On Dundee: "The town that invented the coffin." On Birmingham: "Looks as though it was designed by a Lego salesman." On Egremont on the North-east coast: "Where the tide goes it doesn't have to come in."

It is hard to see him suppressing this brand of humour during the next three years as he addresses himself to the problems of the countryside. What the RA has is a one-off hybrid descended from the music hall clown and the dogged commoners who trespassed on the Kinder Scout grouse moors half a century ago and so gave birth to the Pennine Way.

Mike Harding's comic miscellany: When The Martians Land in Huddersfield, was published yesterday by Robson Books (£5.95).



London in
the nightime.

The first thing you'll see at the new Royal Roof is London. Spread before you in all its majesty. Kensington Gardens are laid at your feet.

At your fingertips, is a Prix Fixe menu matching the view. Only ten pounds, and well worth looking at. As are the exciting

ROYAL GARDEN HOTEL
ROYAL ROOF RESTAURANT

changes we've made to give our restaurant a fresh new feel.

And that's just the tenth floor of our five-star hotel. You'll find first class service throughout. Enthusiastic and experienced staff. So whichever way you look at it, you'll see the best of London.

Kensington W.8.
Tel: 01-937 8000

moreover... Miles Kington

Now for the other side of the coin

What do you think of the desert island or a motorway service area, could always survive on the contents of his wallet. This, I fear, will no longer be true. Your faithfully.

From the Bishop of Milton Keynes

Sir, The church has never been slow to welcome change, if that change be good and positive. What we have to ask ourselves here, I think, is whether the pound coin is a force for good in society today, or merely another way of rendering unto Caesar those things which perhaps belong to God.

You know, I often think that life is a bit like a pound note; it may be worn out but God will always pay the bearer in the end. What I am trying to say, I think, is that I have absolutely no opinion about the new pound coin, but I felt I ought to write a letter on the subject anyway. Yours till eternity.

From Col James Witherspoon

Sir, I am not surprised that they have decided to phase out the pound note. It was a nasty, tawdry little innovation to begin with, as I said at the time. And I am very glad we are getting back to the good old sovereign at last. You may be interested to know that I have never once used a pound note in all those years but have always preferred to let my bills mount up instead!

If my creditors care to get in touch with me again, I shall be happy to settle up in the new coinage. To prevent congestion, I will deal with accounts up to and including 1925 to begin with.

Yours sincerely,

From the President of the Royal College of Dieticians

Sir, It is not often realized that the old pound note had some nutritional value, containing traces of calcium, iron and vitamin C. It was also, of course, rich in roughage, as anyone who has ever eaten a pound note will testify.

But the new pound coin contains nothing of use to the human body whatsoever. I am not suggesting that the eating of pound notes was ever common, or that it has been encouraged by this college, merely pointing out that somebody stranded without proper food on, say, a

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

Portfolio £22,000 to be won



Roller hockey's feminine touch

PLUS: News from home and abroad; Critics' choice of forthcoming arts events; Video cassettes of the month; Drink on tasting Beaujolais Nouveau; Gardening on dwarf conifers; Chess Bridge, Prize Concise Crossword

Can you always get your copy of The Times?

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of The Times

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 497)



ACROSS
1 Comforts (6)
5 In front (6)
8 Put (3)
9 Thorax lining (6)
10 Voice box (6)
11 Nose (4)
12 Carpenter (6)
13 Carpenter (6)
14 Carpenter (6)
15 History records (6)
16 Call to court (8)
19 Nothing (4)
24 Persons (6)
25 Exaggerate (6)
26 Raised edge (3)
27 Tempestuous (6)
28 Over there (6)
DOWN
2 Sesame sweetmeat (5)
3 Evasion (7)
4 Defamation (7)
5 Local rule (5)
6 Lemur (5)
7 Recommendation (7)
12 Religious (3)
15 Vastly rich (7)
16 Self (3)
17 Animal structure (7)
21 Each (5)
23 Thick wad (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 496
1 ACTRESS 8 Impassionate 9 Lid 10 Conundrum 11 Snare 13 Eminence
16 Spotted 18 Lime 22 Righteous 24 Tom 25 London Airport

DOWN: 1 Scaler 2 Smudge 3 Baccarat 4 Usury 5 John 6 Marie
7 Helms 12 Nap 14 Illusory 15 Non 16 Stroll 17 Organs 18 Doodah
20 Action 21 Emnity 23 Tool

With Air France Vacances, flying to France is now even cheaper. Fares from London: Nice £130*, Marseilles £122*, Lyons £102*, Bordeaux £105*, Toulouse £105*, Strasbourg £102*, Corsica £155, Lille £66*, Nantes £91, Paris £71*. Also Manchester to Paris from £90*.

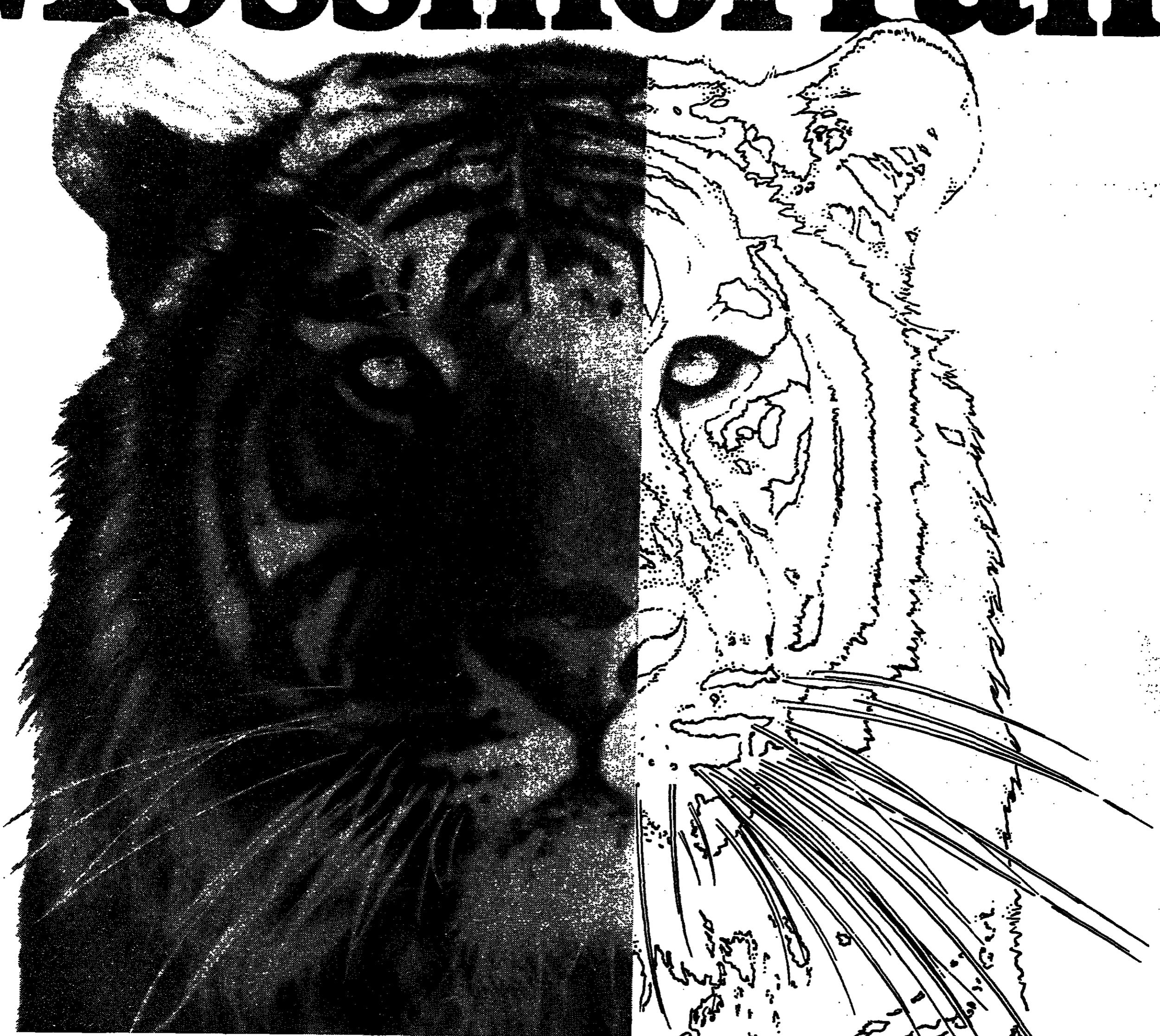
AIR FRANCE

MORE FRANCE FOR LESS

For full details, see your travel agent or call Air France, London 01-499 9511, Manchester 061-436 3800.

مكتبة الأصل

Mossmorran



How Esso intend completing the picture

The new Esso-Shell gas liquids fractionation plant at Mossmorran in Fife is open for business. It took over £500 million and 5 years of ingenuity and skill to build.

Mossmorran is only one part of a £1,700 million development programme which started 13 years ago with the discovery of the Brent oil and gas field.

Natural gas and its associated liquids are carried 278 miles by undersea pipeline from Brent and other fields in the North Sea to St. Fergus in Scotland.

There the natural gas is separated from the liquids, piped into the national gas grid, and is now supplying 10% of Britain's gas for industry and the home.

The natural gas liquids then travel a further 138 miles by underground pipeline to Mossmorran. Here they are separated into their commercial components: propane, butane, natural gasoline and ethane.

Esso are now completing the picture by building a £400 million ethane cracker, linked to the Mossmorran complex. This cracker will be the most technologically advanced in Europe, and will produce ethylene, the basic raw material for plastics.

This investment in all our futures is just one demonstration of Esso's continuing confidence and commitment to Britain.

But the work doesn't finish here. Esso are currently spending at the rate of £2,000 per minute, over 85% of it going to British firms.

Between now and 1990 we expect to invest another £4,500,000,000 to meet Britain's energy needs—a massive commitment which offers opportunities for the development of new technologies, the building of new industries, and the creation of new jobs.

Esso look forward with confidence to providing supplies of oil and gas for Britain well into the 21st century.



FRIDAY PAGE

From Brünnhilde to modern Marlene

EUROPEAN WOMEN In our final report on women's equality in Europe, Michael Binyon reveals how German women are dissatisfied with the progress they have made and why they fear a backlash

There is a paradox in West Germany. The chic, rich, independent women of the Federal Republic, a country that lays official emphasis on equal opportunity, social justice and democratic rights, would appear to be among the least affected by traditions of male dominance, but it is just not so. German women would seem to share with those in Scandinavia and other northern cultures an influence and position notably more pronounced than in Latin cultures. But in reality the fight for equal rights is fiercer in West Germany than in most European countries precisely because women still perceive a big gap between expectation and achievement.

On the surface it looks as if much has been achieved in the past 10 years. The Social Democratic Government systematically encouraged the advancement of women in all areas, and legislation laid down a framework for equality. A high proportion of women now have jobs and traditional male occupations have opened their doors to women.

There are women priests, women company directors, clots and ministers. The Foreign Ministry has just appointed its fourth woman as ambassador to Tanzania. Cities such as Hamburg and Cologne have set up permanent offices to ensure equal opportunities for women and roughly a quarter of all new businesses are set up by women. All political parties have paid increasing attention to women's rights, the Bundestag has debated the issue and the Green Party is now headed entirely by women.

Yet it is still difficult in Germany to name more than a dozen women who are leaders in their profession. There are few women journalists and broadcasters and even fewer senior civil servants. Women make up barely 10 per cent of the Bundestag. Apart from 70

All this, women's groups argue, is symptomatic of a new

medical assistants, there are no women in the German Armed Forces. The top jobs in banking and commerce are overwhelmingly held by men. And women musicians, as Sabine Meyer found at the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, often have a hard task entering the male-dominated world of music and the arts.

Feminist groups are also alarmed by what they see as a comprehensive threat to many of the gains of the 1970s. They took with concern at the new emphasis on motherhood – an emphasis the Christian Democrats found struck a warm chord among many voters last year, and one which chimes in well with worries about the low German birthrate and the general public hostility to children. They detect an attempt by society to get women back into the home, and even a trace of the old three Ks ideal – Kinder, Küche, Kirche (children, kitchen, church).

They point to recent legislation by the centre-right Government which they claim has been to the disadvantage of women.

Reform of the divorce law, once again raising the possibility of court action to determine the "guilt" of one or other party.,

Cuts in student grants, which opponents say will inevitably fall harder on women, who will face greater pressures against going to college than male students and who will find it harder to repay state loans. Renewed attempts to tighten up the abortion law and the recent attack by the Ministry of Youth and Family Affairs on a leading birth control advisory organization; the controversial cut in post-natal allowances for women and the tight economic policies which have squeezed the number of industrial training places.

In many homes, standards have relaxed somewhat with the more permissive atmosphere of the past two decades, especially where jobs compete for a woman's time and changes her priorities. But the old instinct is often not far from the surface: a young left-wing feminist can



Breaking down barriers: From left, businesswoman Grete Schickendantz, trade union leader Monika Wulf-Mathies, sex empire owner Beate Uhse, musician Sabine Meyer and politician Petra Kelly

effects of divorce on families and trying to improve the lot of housewives.

Frau Wolf, head of the section and a vice-president of the Advisory Committee on Equality in Brussels, said that in terms of pay and the position of women, Germany statistically was approximately middle of the European Community table. But the Bonn government did not think a policy of affirmative action, as practised in the United States, would be appropriate to achieve advances.

The government denies that any of its policies have reduced women's opportunities. The Ministry of Youth and Family Affairs has a section to coordinate legislation affecting women's interests, enforce existing laws on equality and encourage further moves. It has a yearly budget of DM 3,800,000 (slightly more than £1m) for research, seminars, conferences and pilot projects, and has been active in such things as setting up model shelters for battered wives, promoting research on the

scenes on the established political parties, trade unions and employers.

Frau Wolf acknowledged a chance of emphasis in the present government's social policies, but added: "We have no intention of sending women back into the home, what we want to do is improve the opportunities for those women who do stay at home".

There are clear and sometimes bitter differences in attitude here between generations. The Greens, who are mainly supported by the young, have adopted unashamedly feminist policies and have been vocal in denouncing discrimination and sexual harassment at the workplace, male chauvinism in politics – including the Bundestag – and remaining legal obstacles to full equality.

One of the women behind the party is Petra Kelly, who as a former leader of the Greens in



the Bundestag made it a force to be reckoned with in West German politics.

Ironically, it is in business that women have made the most substantial gains recently. The number of company

presidents has quadrupled since the mid 1970s, and there are now more than 100,000 women who control firms with a yearly turnover of more than DM 1m.

They have spread out beyond Germany's toughest women in a tough field: Frau Monika Wulf-Mathies, head of the Transport and Public Service Union, the second largest trade union in West Germany. She has just been overwhelmingly re-elected, and has promised a militant campaign to try to win a shorter working week for her members. She is the first woman union leader and the first representative of a college educated younger generation – she is 42 – to reach such a senior position in the trade union movement.

A good example is one of Germany's toughest women in a tough field: Frau Grete Schickendantz of the giant mail order firm Quelle, and of course Frau Beate Uhse who runs a firm that perhaps more than any other is symbol of the male world – the Beate Uhse Sex Shops.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The screen of fear

Any link between birth defects and an environmental hazard is bound to strike fear into the hearts of pregnant women or those wishing to conceive. The latest scare comes from reports of women who worked on visual display units (VDUs) during pregnancy and went on to deliver handicapped babies or suffer miscarriages.

Unravelling the evidence and putting it into perspective is difficult so little work has been done either to substantiate or refute the claims, that any conclusions are based on opinion and are, as a result, controversial.

Reports of clusters of babies born with handicaps and unusually high rates of miscarriages come mainly from the United States and Canada.

A study of pregnancies among female staff at the Department of Employment in Runcorn, Cheshire, is causing concern. There are some reservations and criticisms of the statistical basis of the study but the indications, so far are that 36 per cent of the pregnancies of women working on VDUs did not have a normal outcome, compared with 16 per cent of those who were not using the equipment.

There were 55 pregnancies in the VDU group:

14.5 per cent ended with a miscarriage, 6.7 per cent in still birth and 22 per cent in some kind of malformation.

For the other women there were 5.3 per cent miscarriages, fewer than 1 per cent still births and 11 per cent malformations.

In small groups of women

miscarriage rates of more than 50 per cent have been found.

The expected miscarriage rate

in the general population is

between 15 and 20 per cent.

As Dr Colin Mackay, of the

Health and Safety Executive,

explains, in small groups of

women it may appear to be as

low as 5 per cent or as high as

40 per cent without any external

factors being responsible.

Reports of high rates of spontaneous abortions in a small

group of women may be put

down to chance and are just

distributions around the average.

Nevertheless, further investi-

gation needs to be done on

whether working on a VDU is

particularly stressful during

pregnancy. Sitting down at a

desk should be less demanding

than, say, working in a factory

where the job requires lifting

and carrying.

ing to Dr Mackay, we are all exposed to some background X-rays, whatever we do. If a pregnant woman were exposed to the maximum level of rays internationally recommended to be acceptable for the whole period of her pregnancy, it would add only a quarter to the background level.

"VDUs, it must be remembered, do not emit anywhere near that maximum", Dr Mackay stresses. "Similarly, the levels of other radiation from VDUs are very much lower than the current standards."

Mr Webb says: "There is no safe level of radiation. In addition, there is no conclusive evidence that these low levels do not cause damage," he says.

"Both X-rays and other radiation can be reduced by protecting the source with a metal cage and changing the type of screen from the normal tube to the newer liquid crystal displays or plasma screens."

Mr Webb says: "pregnant women and their employers should ask whether they really need to use a VDU or whether they can just as easily work from a print-out or an alternative."

"Any woman who has outstanding doubts should have the right to transfer to other work", he says.

But a cautionary note has been sounded by Richard Beard, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at St Mary's Hospital, London.

He said: "Very little is known except that no harmful radiation comes from the machines. If there are problems they may be due to stress. Any woman who is worried about malformations would be subject to a detailed ultrasound study."

However, he suggested a detailed prospective study into the use of VDUs.

Pain barrier

The Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Norman Fowler, has announced plans to limit the number of drugs available on NHS prescription. So far the proposals affect only medicines for "minor and self-limiting ailments" – cough and cold remedies, antacids, laxatives and mild pain-killers.

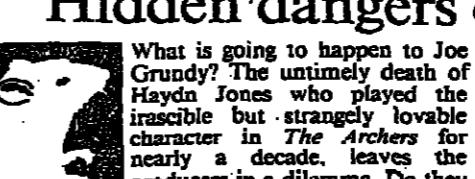
There are also plans to restrict the numbers of benzodiazepine sedatives and tranquillizers available. Instead of the full range of these drugs only a few basic medicines will now be available on NHS prescription. The proposals could mean that some drugs such as Benylin for coughs, Distalgesic for pain and Ativan for anxiety will no longer be on the NHS – not even generic versions.

Anyone still wanting them would be able to buy them over the counter or on private prescription. Many of the drugs affected can be bought at the chemist's, and many cost less than the prescription charge.

However, up to 80 per cent of NHS prescriptions are for patients exempt from charges who would not have paid anything if their doctor had prescribed these products.

But drugs available only on prescription such as Mopadon sleeping tablets and Valium tranquilizers will be available in a cheaper generic form and in any case a month's supply for those wishing to stay with the brand name costs less than £2. But a month's supply of Ativan will cost nearly £3, Dormicum around £4.50 and Librium around £2.40.

Hidden dangers down on the farm



What is going to happen to Joe Grundy? The untimely death of Haydn Jones who played the irascible but strangely lovable character in *The Archers* for nearly a decade, leaves the producers in a dilemma. Do they try to find a replacement actor or do they bring his life to an end as well? Joe Grundy had complained that he suffered from farmer's lung.

The disease is caused by the spores of the fungus *aspergillus* lodging themselves in the lung. The conditions are ideal for the fungus – moist, dark and damp – and if not controlled the growth can eventually obstruct the lung and lead to chronic health problems. The fungus comes from rotting crops and poor quality grain which is stored when wet.

The disease is easily treated if diagnosed promptly although it can be debilitating and shortness of breath may persist. Deaths from the disease are not unknown: in 1983, for example, 14 were recorded. Most sufferers have their first attacks in their fifties. The disease may take 20 years to develop.

If the producers are looking for a dramatic end for Joe they could opt for Weil's Disease, from which farmers are also at risk. This is caused by a highly dangerous bacteria transmitted by rats, which are not unknown at Grange Farm. A person infected will suffer severe flu-like symptoms and life-threatening jaundice if not treated immediately.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Only one decaffeinated coffee tastes as good as Nescafé Gold Blend.



When Nescafé make an instant coffee as good as Gold Blend, it's hardly surprising to find that Gold Blend Decaffeinated tastes just as good.

Because Gold Blend Decaffeinated is made from the same high quality beans that go to make Gold Blend.

We simply remove the caffeine, leaving behind that rich, smooth, golden taste unique to Gold Blend.

That's why only one decaffeinated instant coffee tastes as good as Nescafé Gold Blend...

Nescafé Gold Blend Decaffeinated.

Nescafé and Gold Blend are registered trade marks to designate Nestlé's instant coffee.





"Ever since the chairman bought Fisher, we've been freezing our assets off."

As the Old Man is so fond of reminding one, success in life is largely a matter of getting one's priorities right. Even at the risk of a little personal discomfort.

In this instance, his priority was expensive Fisher TV, hi-fi and video equipment.

See the direct drive turntable there, through the freezing fog? It's sitting on top of a CA-67 amplifier, rated at 60 watts per channel, with a five band graphic equalizer.

The FM-67 tuner has 16 memory

presets and digital synthesized tuning.

The CRW-67 twin cassette deck was optional, so he had to have one. It's got the lot - automatic search and Dolby® B noise reduction included.

The old boy tells us the CD Digital Audio Player has forward and reverse track selection and a programme memory. It's amazing how he's grasped the jargon.

The Fisher 725 two-speed VHS video recorder with infra-red remote control will

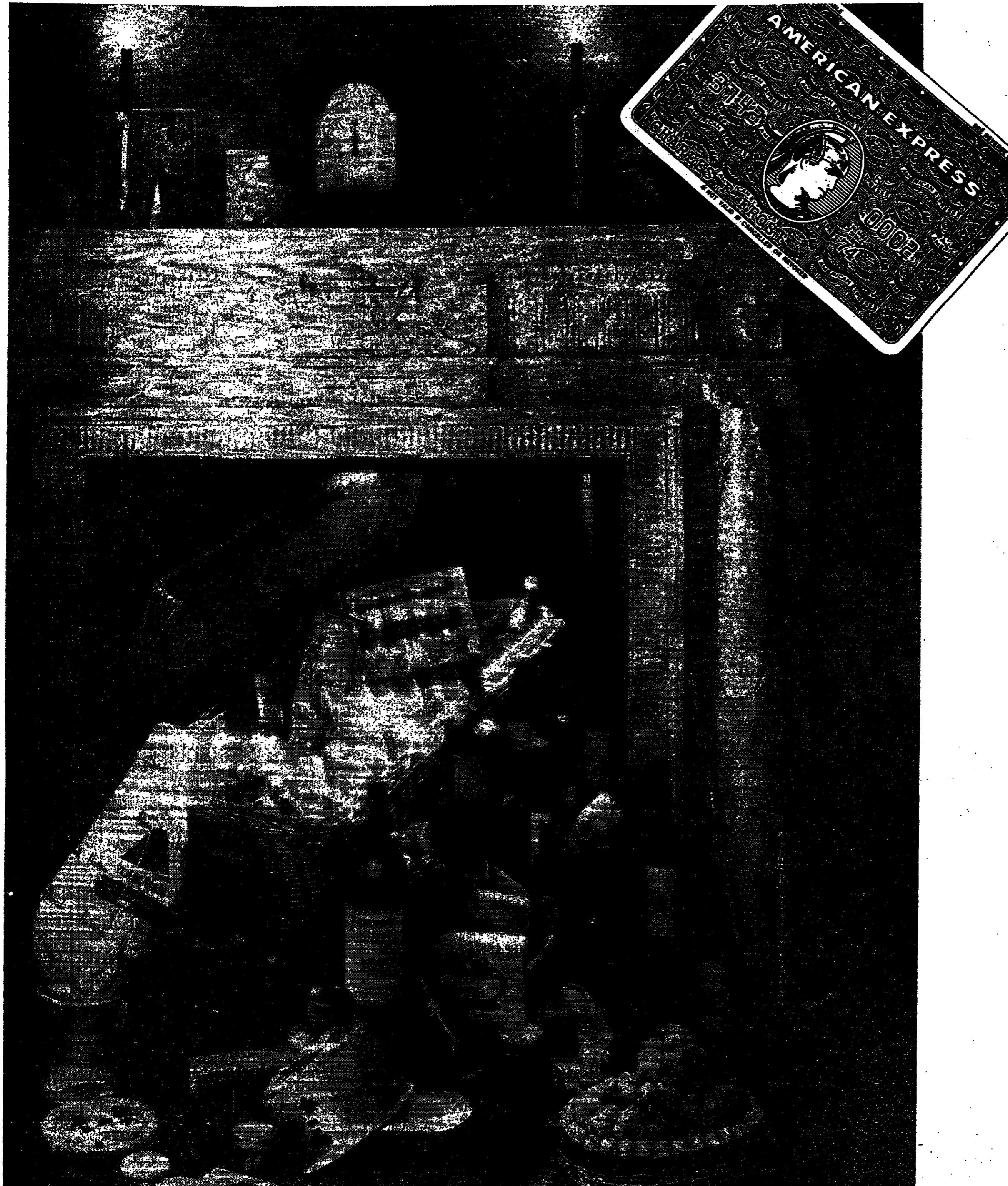
record up to eight hours of programmes at one go. Though I don't suppose we'll need the built-in Dew Protection System.

The 21" remote control colour TV has a 'Flat Square Tube' (for superb picture definition) and teletext, so we can catch the latest chilling news from the Stock Exchange.

All in all, I have to admit it: even though this blessed Fisher gear has cost us the year's heating budget, I'm genuinely beginning to warm to it.

FISHER

What wouldn't you give to own one? The Sight and Sound of Precision



The Finest Christmas Fare... Naturally on the American Express Card

Harrods and the American Express Card are the natural combination this Christmas. As are delicious food and drink to enhance the festive mood. Harrods can help you to celebrate with even greater good cheer. Gift boxes and hampers overflowing with mouth-watering delights. Carefully chosen by us to suit a wide variety of tastes. From £18 to £1000. And, if you have any special requirements, we will do our best to fulfil them, if you allow us a little time.

Gift boxes are to be found in the Food Halls on the Ground Floor. Or, if you wish to order by mail, our Christmas Magazine can offer a wonderful variety of delicious ideas. Available from Harrods or leading newsagents at £1.50, or by post at £2.45.

Whether you visit us or order by mail, remember there's one card that Harrods always look forward to receiving at Christmas. The American Express Card. Naturally.



مكتبة الملك

THE ARTS

Cinema

Tony Richardson's formidable feat of juggling

Hotel New Hampshire (18)
Gate Bloomsbury:
Cinecitta Panton Street

Maria's Lovers (18)
Classic Haymarket (Nov 23)

Success is the Best Revenge (15)

Everyman (Nov 23)

L'Amour par terre (15)
Classics Chelsea,
Hampstead

Hotel New Hampshire was a 1981 best-seller by John Irving, the author of *The World According to Garp* and an exponent of a peculiarly American and contemporary school of fiction whose other notables include Joseph Heller, Kurt Vonnegut and E. L. Doctorow. The characteristics of the type are canvases of epic scale and historical scope, a picaresque approach both to time and space, kaleidoscopic variety of incident, multitudinous characters, free shifts from absurd farce to sombre tragedy. It is the kind of big novel which offers entertainment, while purporting deeper philosophic purposes, metaphorical reflections upon the Human Condition, Life, Love, Dreams, Passion, Aspiration - 400 pages of Higher Wisdom to pass away a transatlantic plane journey painlessly.

The style might not appear particularly suited to the screen, but Tony Richardson, returning to major feature film production seven years after the unfortunate *Joseph Andrews*, has written and directed a version which succeeds remarkably in reproducing the content and manner of *Hotel New Hampshire*.

The central theme is the importance of staying true to your dreams whatever the obstacles and whatever the price a tough world may exact; the running motto is "Keep passing the open windows", which is to say do not (as characters in the book tend to do) throw yourself out of them.

Beau Bridges plays the proprietor of several successful and ill-fated hotels in various locales including Arbutusnot, USA, and Vienna, Austria. His elder son (Paul McCrane) is homosexual, his younger (Rob Lowe) an Adonis who brings sexual fulfilment to a succession of women but longs only for physical union with his older sister (a much-matured Jodie Foster), who tends to be a rape victim. Their younger sister (Jennie Dundas) is a



Susie the Bear: Nastassja Kinski with Jodie Foster in *Hotel New Hampshire*

dwarf who becomes a Great American Novelist with a book called *Trying to Grow*.

Around these central figures revolves a large cast of eccentrics, including delinquents, terrorists and Nastassja Kinski as a girl who masquerades as a bear from fear of facing the world. There are three rapes in assorted variety, three deaths in the family, two blindings, a great deal of regular coupling, a marathon bout of incest and a lot of laughs.

It is, like the original novel, a matter of taking it or leaving it. Tony Richardson, with a skilful and skilfully selected cast, manages a formidable juggling feat in sustaining the multiplicity of characters and incidents. He still retains, though, his old capacity to surprise with sudden banalities: his use of speeded up action recalls the worst of British in the Swinging Sixties; and the round-the-clock sex marathon of brother and sister looks like a German soft-core porn movie. Such failings though were always concomitant with the

ambition and nerve which made Richardson one of the most valuable British figures of his generation.

Andrei Konchalovsky is the first Soviet director ever to make a feature film in Hollywood. His career at home has shown a dramatic shift from his first films, *The First Teacher* and *Asya's Happiness* - truthful and sensitive human dramas - to the dreadful *Siberiade* of 1978, a wacky patriotic epic, the Soviet answer to *1900*. *Maria's Lovers* attempts rather uncomfortably to mix the intimate and the epic, and emerges a lot of the time simply as novella.

It begins auspiciously, with an extract from John Huston's 1944 documentary about soldiers psychically damaged by wartime experiences, *Let There Be Light*. At the end of a series of authentic, agonising interviews we are introduced to the fictional hero Ivan Babic (John Savage). Ivan returns to Pennsylvania and his home in a Yugoslav émigré community, and marries Maria (Nastassja Kinski), the childhood

sweetheart whose image has sustained him through his prisoner-of-war experiences.

Ivan however finds himself incapable of sex with his new-wife, even though he is successful enough with the local floozie. Maria is loving and patient; but Ivan's frustrations drive him to breaking-point. He walks out on Maria, who thereupon loses her virginity to an itinerant guitar-player and seducer. By this time the grandiose ambitions of the early scenes have definitely dwindled to novella as Ivan rediscovers his manhood, floors the seducer and consummates the union with a triumphant cry of "I'm home!"

The essential paucity of the material is somewhat redeemed by the adept playing of John Savage and the ubiquitous Kinski, only occasionally over the top by their director, and Robert Mitchum's stoical performance as Ivan's father. Directors seem to carry their own words with them: the most remarkable achievement of *Maria's Lovers* is

to make Pennsylvania look like the Ukraine - a similarity emphasized by colour whose predominant blue and brown tones recall old Sovcolor films of the Forties.

Another director abroad, Jerzy Skolimowski follows *Moonlighting* with a comparably lively, swiftly-made, supremely up-to-the-minute sketch film *Success* is the Best Revenge. The leading character, played by Michael York, is very evidently a self-portrait of the director. Skolimowski's real-life wife and sons (under the names Joanna Szczesniak, Michael Lyndon and George Skolimowski) play the family of the film's hero, an internationally feted but financially embarrassed theatre director.

While having problems with his bank, his car, his backers, his apartment and almost anyone he encounters in the street, he has to wrestle with his relationship with his troubled homeland, and to decide whether to go through with an avant-garde political theatre show which will once and for all alienate him from Poland as a dissident. His own problems leave him no time to comprehend the dilemmas - no less Polish - of his 16-year-old son, who ends up returning to Poland at the moment his father cuts himself adrift.

The film has all the merits and

shortcomings of being made with speed and enthusiasm. No doubt because of hasty preparation, the script lacks form, misses points and fails to establish real relationships between characters. To set against this are brilliant little set-pieces, like the father and son quarrelling on the football field; enjoyable bits of characteristic quirky comedy, like Jane Asher's bank manager with a hot water bottle or the seduction of a local council planner; a vivid contemporaneity in the references. Skolimowski's sheer vitality convinces you that it is carefree rather than careless.

I must admit a totally blind spot

in the matter of Jacques Rivette, at least

since *Celine et Julie*. While some of my best friends delight in his charm, wit, Gallic style and enchanting feminine portraits, to me the films

are only precious, silly and vaguely

satiric in their feeling for young girls.

I can but record impartially that *L'Amour par terre* (seen at Venice and included in the London Festival) relates how two impenitent English actresses in Paris (jolly performances by Geraldine Chaplin and Jane Birkin) accept the hospitality of a rich

and eccentric playwright. In his

château they encounter various bizarre and mysterious characters and occult experiences. The pictures are pretty, the dialogue is arch and the best comic scenes go to Laszlo Szabo as the playwright's solemn butler and literary ghost.

David Robinson

Opera

A long lost chord

Johnny Strikes Up
Sadler's Wells

quasi-Republican Convention suggests.

So it is only as a period piece of a particularly superficial kind that *Jonny* has any hope of success, and that is not how Opera North treat it. Jonathan Sprague's lively *Jonny*, and Gillian Sullivani's neat Yvonne, camp up their jazz duet; Lyndon Terracini's violinist Daniello has escaped from Miller's *Rigoletto*; Penelope MacKay's well sung Anita - who is meant to be the focus of passion and love in the piece - flounces around the stage posturing wildly. Only Kenneth Wollam's Max, the serious composer who stands uncomprehending at the centre of this whirling nonsense, makes any attempt at dignity, and he ends up looking just like Janáček on a bad day.

The chic, hard-edged decor, all white furniture and Bauhaus projections, cleverly designed by John Stoddart, has an additional alienating effect. Orchestra and singers try desperately hard to be amused by it all but David Lloyd-Jones seems uneasy with both halves of the schizophrenic score. Once, obviously, it all struck a chord. Now it does not: it is as simple as that. Try again in 2027?

Nicholas Kenyon

Concert

Self-conscious show

ECO/Saraste
Barbican

Jukka-Pekka Saraste, making a return visit to this country after his dramatic British début at this year's Proms, when he replaced Yuri Simonov at short notice, the English Chamber Orchestra accompanied efficiently, with the horns making some especially voluptuous sounds. In Dvorák's *Serenade for Strings*, Saraste engineered an affable performance of what it is an affable work, though it would be more so were its two movements shorter.

Haydn's "Oxford" Symphony is by contrast concise and nothing if not eventful. The ECO were not always in their most sparkling form here: there was one near-disaster in ensemble in the finale. But, even though Saraste ignored some of the finer details of articulation, he still managed to achieve something like the right spirit.

The slow introduction sounded a trifle sweet, but the rest of the first movement was played with a real spring in its heels, and momentum was no less artfully sustained in the wonderfully rich and dramatic Adagio.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

The problem of paternalism

The sight of a person crying on television is always disturbing: more so than the experience of someone crying in real life. The sequence of a man weeping was unusually upsetting in last night's documentary in BBC2's Forty Minutes series entitled *The Grendon Experiment*. This portrayed the work of Grendon Prison in Buckinghamshire, Britain's only psychiatric prison. The crying man had been reduced to tears in a psycho-drama session with a number of other inmates and a group leader who was subsequently seen ebulliently recounting the episode to the prison's principal psychiatrist.

As a prisoner is a person who has already been deliberately shorn of a considerable measure of human dignity, it seemed a cruel enhancement of this deprivation for several million people to view his distress on television from the comfort of their sitting-rooms.

The Grendon Experiment was in many respects an emotional piece of work. The nature of the "experiment" - its terms of reference, methods and duration - was never made clear. The establishment was described as different from Rampton and Broadmoor, but the difference was not fully explained.

The difference appeared to be that Grendon was a relatively low security prison, with a relatively high ratio of staff to prisoners and a regime considerably more humane than the presently widespread confinement of prisoners in small, overcrowded cells for 23 hours out of each day. None of these factors was specifically quantified.

The documentary as a whole

had a naive, almost star-struck

dimension which was particularly evident in a sequence in which the governor visited the prison canteen to taste the inmates' food. This was a demonstration of caring paternalism which could have been lifted from a 1950s rah-rah *Pathé newsreel*.

The governor, Michael Selby, took part in the highly effective opening sequence. In this a number of prisoners introduced themselves fluently in the style of a weekend encounter group. "I'm John, I'm serving eight years for armed robberies and drug importation." "I'm Michael Selby, I'm the newly-appointed governor." There was a suspicion throughout the documentary that the governor's view of Grendon had prevailed upon, or at least coloured, the programme's approach.

The difference appeared to be that Grendon was a relatively low security prison, with a relatively high ratio of staff to prisoners and a regime considerably more humane than the presently widespread confinement of prisoners in small, overcrowded cells for 23 hours out of each day. None of these factors was specifically quantified.

The documentary as a whole

had a naive, almost star-struck

Theatre

The Ancient Mariner
Olivier

One London landmark that I miss is the South Bank's huge fresco of desolate ships, perky little castaways, and sea teeming with unclassifiable monsters, all run up by children who had seen Michael Bogdanov's 1979 *Young Vic* production of *The Ancient Mariner*.

By rights, that matchless piece of display publicity should have launched the show into the National Theatre. But even though Bogdanov had had to wait five years for his transfer, the memory of that juvenile artwork lingers on, renewing your trust in a production that can stimulate such a response.

The third of Bogdanov's adaptations (after *Gawain* and *the Green Knight* and *Hiawatha*), the production releases a great work to junior spectators without diluting it into a junior version. As before, the method consists of delivering the text through a character narrator, and amplifying it with dance, pantomime and the full resources of scenic technology.

The experience in this case is like reading Coleridge by flashes of lightning.

Always happiest on the grand scale, Bogdanov has expanded his original little wedding party into a full company of rustic musicians and Morris Men, vigorously jollily up the foyer

crowd before leading the bride down the central aisle for stick dance revels on stage, while Michael Bryant's spectral Mariner stalks through the merrymakers until he has marked down his man.

"There was a ship", he announces in a voice of thunder, at which the maypole bunting and banners of the wedding feast flutter into oblivion, revealing the rigging and captain of the doomed vessel, and pipes and fiddles give way to work shanties. An outsider among the wedding guests, Bryant remains an outsider among his long-lost shipmates, silently mouthing their songs, and preserving a steady gait as they are thrown about the deck.

Always happiest on the grand scale, Bogdanov has expanded his original little wedding party into a full company of rustic musicians and Morris Men, vigorously jollily up the foyer

Unlike Bogdanov's previous texts, *The Ancient Mariner* is not simply a narrative poem. Much of its action is internal, and its events are saturated in dream symbolism. Any stage version unavoidably becomes an act of interpretation; and that is where this version runs into trouble.

Bogdanov's gift for festive decoration and non-analytic narrative leaves him at a loss in those passages of dead time which make up so much of the poem's horror. Come the doldrums, and it is another desperate round of sea-shanties. As for the albatross, its slaughter is a cue for the Mariner's young alter ego (Frederick Warde) to arrive on deck, along with the Wedding Guest and the bride who performs a sepulchral dance beside the dying bird. You are thus left to draw the crazy conclusion that her marriage amounts to some form of ritual killing.

As a stage picture, the moment is extremely beautiful: a perfectly marked cadence, leaving the young mariner to polish his cross-bow and whistle a cheerful tune in the deathly surrounding silence.

So right, so shabby storytelling goes, Bogdanov works as much stage magic with a fishing rod and a few silk scarves (evoking the phosphorescent sea snakes) as with the full resources of Marty Flood's stage and Chris Ellis's apocalyptic lighting.

Irving Wardle

Psyche

Arts

Would a young psychiatrist who attacks an older master ever accuse himself of Oedipal motivation? Even if that master were old father Freud? Or, seeing that Freud is too long dead, suppose him to be rebelling against his Freudian tutor at Cambridge, whose passionately loyal daughter (remember Anna Freud) holds a strange attraction?

If obviousness is the most notorious criticism of Freudian doctrine, *Psyche* is the sincerest form of flattery. Smooth young Tony begins a celebrity lecture with Freudian pastiche in a patriarchal mask before unveiling his horribly controlled technico-Utopia - a capsule for 500 citizens surveyed by an élite in a phallic tower - in which dreams will be used to reveal, not the wounds and hopes of the soul, but all the data necessary for domination. An indignant visit to Tony's swish flat by the Professor's daughter Rachel, and Tony's and Rachel's dreams, which we see, conjure up the historical Freud as the real father figure, with a sly quote from Hamlet and Ophelia thrown in for good measure.

Anthony Masters

Rachel's dream casts Tony as a Viennese student shrink, submitting rebelliously to analysis with Freud and refusing Anna's bowl of symbolic apples. Tony's dream re-enacts the Gestapo's invasion of the Bergasse consulting-room, with Tony (now leather-coated) taunting the dying genius into a diagnosis of Germany's sickness as a phallic fixation due to repression of child masturbation, and temporarily whisking Anna away to torment him. Tony awakes unrepentant, to rationalize his dream and realize his brave new world.

The brainchild of Paul Arnott (who also plays Tony) and Julian Fellowes, *Psyche* is the sort of fringe play one would expect to see on an Edinburgh afternoon, and to find it in the West End, though impressive as a piece of backroom's courage and producers' persuasion, is surprising to say the least. The 1938 scene, in which David Solomon's gravely insolent Freud makes a distinguished appearance, is a welcome relief from the pert banality of Mr Arnott's exchanges with Susan-Sarah-Owens, but the analysis of the threat from the new autocrats of the future offers no very potent weapon against

measure.

John Anthony Masters

Eric Rohmer's *FULL MOON IN PARIS* is one of the very best films of the year. (See review in *The Guardian*)

Now showing Film at 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.25 CINEMA CHELSEA-CINEMA CAMDEN PLAZA 455-2433 CAMDEN TOWN TUBE STATION

Irving Wardle

Now showing Film at 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.25 CINEMA CHELSEA-CINEMA CAMDEN PLAZA 455-2433 CAMDEN TOWN TUBE STATION

Irving Wardle

Now showing Film at 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.25 CINEMA CHELSEA-CINEMA CAMDEN PLAZA 455-2433 CAMDEN TOWN TUBE STATION

Irving Wardle

Now showing Film at 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.25 CINEMA CHELSEA-CINEMA CAMDEN PLAZA 455-2433 CAMDEN TOWN TUBE STATION

Irving Wardle

Now showing Film at 2.05 4.15 6.30 8.25 CINEMA CHELSEA-CINEMA CAMDEN PLAZA 455-2433 CAMDEN TOWN TUBE STATION

Irving Wardle



No standing room

Robin Harris, Leon Brittan's special adviser at the Home Office, is being hotly tipped to head the research department at Conservative Central Office. There has been much speculation in the past few weeks about why it has taken so long to fill the job since the previous incumbent, Peter Cropper, was grabbed by Nigel Lawson. The answer, of course, was that initially a condition of the job was that candidates were asked not to stand for Parliament at the next General Election. Sources say Harris, who stood as the unsuccessful Tory candidate for Tooting at the last election, may have been persuaded by Mrs Thatcher to waive his parliamentary ambitions temporarily. Meanwhile Michael Portillo is tipped for the job of head of Tory PR, following the death of Anthony Shrimley. Negotiations for the transfer of Portillo, special adviser to the Treasury, have been put in abeyance, however, since he is on the shortlist for Enfield Southgate. Watch this space if he fails to be selected.

Home from home
I bear of a sequel to my piece on how Miners' Back-to-Work campaigner Irene McGibbon had her home daubed with paint after the *Morning Star* printed her full address for the benefit of "interested miners". Scarcely had the ink dried on her complaint to the Press Council than *Mail on Sunday* columnist Alan Williams printed the address and telephone number of *Morning Star* editor Tony Chater, inviting "well-wishers" to contact him. Williams is now also the subject of a Press Council complaint. Who made it - and what the repercussions were of Williams's piece - Chater is not prepared to discuss.

Missing the point
Julia Morley is not the only one who gets headaches from her Miss World beauties. When compering a show, Lord Lichfield found that one contestant did not speak anything but Serbo-Croat. Exasperated, he instructed a translator to teach her the answers to the eight statutory questions in English, parrot-fashion. All was going dandy, until Lichfield received orders on his earphone from the TV control room to miss out question 7, "So where have you been?" he duly asked. "Dr Henry Kissinger", she replied.

Channel packets
The launch of the 1984 Beaujolais Nouveau in Macon on Wednesday night was not an occasion for black ties and spitting bowls. The English runners wore rally jackets and emptied their glasses as if there were no tomorrow, let alone a 300-mile drive ahead. Among the 151 were two leather-clad motor cyclists, drivers of a pair of Harley Street ambulances. Nicholas Parsons and a north country engineer who had not told his wife he had travelled via Amsterdam's red light district. In the end the first *nouveau* on British soil did not arrive on wheels - or even in a bottle. One hundred-and-forty-four litres landed at Southend airport just after 1 am, packed prosaically in Col. Ian's wine boxes. The wine snobs said it was as much as this year's sun-starved vintage deserved.

BARRY FANTONI



I thought money leaders were the traditional target!

Mac's wet

No doubt now to whose mantle Energy Secretary Peter Walker is aspiring. On Tuesday, in his maiden speech to the Lords, the Earl of Stockton decried "mutual hatred" and said the present divided state of Britain broke his heart. Yesterday from the office of the last remaining "wet" in the Cabinet, came invitations to editors and political journalists to hear Walker give the first - and hitherto unlabeled - annual Harold Macmillan lecture. The subject? "The Middle Way: 50 Years On. Collision? Coincidence? Not at all, exclaim the National Union of Young Conservatives, who are organizing the talk. Lord Stockton, says chairman John Guthrie, is the life patron of the YCs and "this is something we could do to institutionalize his way of thinking, so it is permanently remembered and respected - inside the Conservative Party". Walker, he points out, was invited because he is the YC national president, though it is obviously appropriate that someone close to Harold Macmillan, personally and politically, should address the first "lecture." This talking in code can be tiresome.

PHS

The Government has consistently mishandled relations with Argentina since the fall of the military junta and the election of President Alfonsin. Our quarrel was with the repressive junta who invaded British territory, not with the Argentines as a people.

When President Alfonsin was installed we should have sent a high-powered representative to the celebrations to underline our determination to restore good relations. Instead we sent a telegram of good wishes. A few weeks ago, when President Alfonsin addressed the European Parliament, most of the British MEPs stayed away, according to some reports on direct orders from Downing Street.

Democracy is a fragile commodity in Argentina. Raoul Alfonsin is unusual in that he has never held office under any military regime, but opposed them. As a *Times* leader said of his government a year ago: "It may be unpopular, given the enormous and painful tasks of reconstruction which face it. It is all the more important therefore that Britain shows that it is easier to talk to a civilian government about the Falkland Islands than it was or would be with a military one."

On four distinct occasions during the last 20 years, two of them during the dictatorship, it has been declared British policy to secure a transfer of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands to Argentina. It would therefore be a remarkable turnaround to refuse to contemplate any conditions for such a transfer to a democratic Argentina. Yet British policy is vague and ambiguous.

Prior to the Berlin talks this

Falkland factors we can no longer ignore

by David Steel

summer, the Argentines were happy to leave the issue of sovereignty well down the agenda, to allow time to heal wounds. Unfortunately the British infuriated not only the Argentines but also the Swiss hosts by expecting the issue to be raised formally and then forgotten. The British issued a declaration that "we are not prepared to discuss sovereignty" - a phrase capable of meaning either "we are not ready to" or "we are not willing to". Missing from the statement was either the word "yet" or "ever". Subsequent statements by ministers have failed to clarify the matter.

This intended ambiguity cannot serve as a long-term policy. Mrs Thatcher is wrong if she believes that support for the task force applies also to a dead-end policy over the islands' future. The policy first went off the rails when she declared the wishes of the islanders to be "paramount", echoed foolishly by Labour's then foreign affairs spokesman, Peter Shore.

As the *Financial Times* put it in a recent leader: "The wishes of the Falkland Islanders are not paramount; they are subservient to the wishes of the British Parliament and ultimately to the readiness of the British people to sustain them in a strange and highly unsatisfactory situation. It is neither realistic nor honest for the British Government to hide behind the notion of absolute self-determination which can only be applicable to a territory that is potentially independent".

A more sensible doctrine has been embraced in the case of Hong Kong, where the impracticability of handing over the New Territories lease expires in 1997 was the main consideration. So the interests of 5 million people have been protected as far as possible in negotiations between the two governments and their wishes confined to a realistic choice between take it or leave it.

Yet the 1,800 people on the Falklands are apparently for ever more to dictate a ludicrous dent in

our defence and other budgets - at a time when every other area of public spending is under constraint - and to dictate a hostile attitude to a major democracy in Latin America.

A willingness to put sovereignty back on the agenda could lead to fairly swift restoration of diplomatic ties, formal cessation of hostilities, the lifting of the Falklands protection zone and a return to normal trade. A fair deal on the Falklands would substantially reduce public expenditure in Britain and help stabilize the Alfonsin government.

What would be a fair deal? The agreement between Argentina and Chile on the Beagle Channel gives hope that a distinction could be agreed between the Falklands and the other islands, South Georgia and the Sandwich group, where the British title is generally accepted as stronger.

As to the Falklands themselves, the interests of the islanders and their way of life (disrupted by the Fortress Falklands policy) must be protected. The islands would also have to be demilitarized under some international guarantee.

There was something rotten in the state of Argentina which lay at the heart of the Falklands invasion. The military had an appalling record on human rights at home as well as in this foreign adventure. We should wake up to the fact that it has gone. We should not repeat the aimless vacillation towards the Falklands which characterized the two decades before the tragedy and which, as the Franks Report clearly indicates, helped bring it about.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

Michael Ignatieff assesses new arguments on the state of socialism

Where Labour and reality diverge

No party is free of illusions. Among Tories illusion takes the form of faith in the market. Among social democrats and liberals, it is that cautious appeals to consensus will win votes in a society deeply divided by the kinds of enmities at work in the miners' strike. Among socialists, the source of illusion is moral windbagery: the failure to match moral commitment to practical policy.

Socialists are windbags about democracy: hoarsely in its favour, deeply confused about what it means. Labour's fractious disarray in the past decade, when seen as an argument of principle, can be understood as a battle between two competing definitions. Labour MPs and trade union leaders believe democracy means listening to the electoral majority and preparing for government, while the new generation of party activists believe it means giving a voice to electoral minorities and an extra-parliamentary movement of protest.

Labour windbagery extends to a failure to think through the conflict between local democracy and national economic planning. In two new books centrist Fabians and left-wing *New Socialist* writers alike show they are aware of it, but none faces up to the likely problems which could result from the contradiction.

In the current fight over the future of the GLC and the metropolitan authorities, most socialists line up on the side of local democracy against Whitehall tyranny. But what would happen to the socialist commitment to local democracy if Labour were in power in Whitehall trying to force Kensington and Chelsea, for example, to implement a socialist housing policy?

There is little doubt that Tony Benn is a democrat: the trouble is that he is always dreaming of the truly fair, truly unbiased election in which he would sweep the poll. There is no doubt that Arthur Scargill and the miners' leaders are democrats: the trouble is they won't trust their own members enough to have a national ballot.

The second example of the failure to match rhetoric to strategy concerns economics. Socialist indifference to the subject is a long-standing *hauteur*: "a sheer waste of time". Beatrice Webb is supposed to have muttered. Yet socialists have paid dearly, most recently in France, for their failure to ground moral righteousness in economic feasibility.

In both the Fabian and *New*



recovery and reconquest of their internal market.

It is a welcome relief from the go-it-alone fantasies of the Little Englanders of the left to find emphasised the necessary European dimension of a socialist recovery. But the abiding paralysis of Europe leaves one wondering whether Stuart Holland's proposals are not dogged by that besetting socialist vice: pious internationalism.

The revival of demand in Europe is of little use, as the Cambridge economist John Eatwell argues, if the collapse of British industry during the 1980s leaves no British suppliers in the field.

It is in the field of industrial policy that new socialist thought shows the most tenacious attempt to throw off the dead hand of a Clause 4 nationalization strategy.

Peter Kelner's clever attack on suspicion of the market mechanism shows clearly that ownership of industry and banking is less important than the establishment of a "rule of law" over the market-place, whereby investment decisions are made a matter of democratic choice. The challenge is to make planning acquire some of the responsiveness of markets, by bringing the planning process as close as possible to the workers who make the goods and the consumers who buy them.

This is the thrust behind the local planning boards set up by Labour-controlled authorities. The "popular planning units" fund research and development into socially useful products which could revitalise the shattered industry of inner cities. Whether local planners prove more efficient than the local bank manager in spotting investment opportunities remains to see.

The biggest pity among socialists is that the trade union movement represents the real interests of the working class. This is doubtful enough, but it is even more preposterous to claim that the interests of the organized working class are synonymous with those of the community as a whole. Among the *New Socialist* writers, only the LSE Professor Brian Abel Smith - who watched a Labour government being brought to its knees by the claims of public sector workers in the 1979 winter of discontent - nails this piety for what it is. Socialism, he writes, is about equality: "The Labour movement is about differentials."

Many key elements of a genuinely socialist economic strategy would call for conflict with the Labour movement. As women trade unionists have found to their cost, policies such as job sharing, overtime bans, a minimum wage policy, the 35-hour week, and equal pay for equal work have met with almost as much resistance from unions as from employers.

There is also an obvious contradiction in principle between free collective bargaining and a national economic strategy capable of containing inflation. This contradiction destroyed the credibility of Labour's economic package in the last manifesto, and may do so again.

One of the ironies of Mrs Thatcher's attack on trade unions is that she has secured them against attack from the left. Yet the day of reckoning within the socialist movement must come if there is to be a viable and believable socialist strategy for the next election. The test of socialist leadership is not only having the courage to take on one's enemies, and God knows they are legion, but also one's friends.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

The Future of the Left edited by James Currey, published by Policy Press & New Socialist, £16.50 hardback, £4.95 paper-

back; Fabian Essays in Socialist Thought, edited by Ben Pimlott, published by Heinemann Educational Books, £19.50 hardback, £8.50 paperback.

able charities to whom businessmen could happily pass on donations. A series of dubious cultural, religious and social organizations sprang up and politicians were careful not to ask questions about where their funds came from.

This sloppy accounting led some people to forget the golden rule in politics - never accept envelopes containing cash, whatever the source. It is now up to the courts to prove whether there was ever a quid pro quo in the Flick case.

The answer to the first is rooted in the special circumstances of Germany's postwar rebirth of democracy. The open support by big business of Hitler made German industry wary of getting involved in politics again, and politicians fearful of accepting direct contributions.

Herr Kohl has insisted that Flick should not scare people from putting their money where their political values lie. Nor, he said, was German democracy up for sale - but until the work of the parliamentary investigating committee is done and all the possible incriminating evidence examined, few people will be convinced of either. And a number of politicians still tremble to see what will be in each new issue of *Der Spiegel*.

Michael Binyon

Flick: will this really be the last reel?

time, Herr Kohl believes, to call a halt to the scandal.

The scandal had been going on so long that public and political sensibilities had become dulled. The public had become cynical and politicians had failed to see the moral implications of their connivance with big business in getting round the laws on political donation. But now the moral dimension has suddenly been brought home to those machine politicians who supported an amnesty for all those firms that fiddled their taxes while lining the parties' coffers in the 1970s. That a politician of Herr Kohl's standing could apparently have accepted so much money for himself, rather than for his party, from one firm under such clear suspicion of trying to win friends in high places does set a dangerous, if not a criminal, precedent.

Press comparisons of West Germany to a "banana republic" are apt, for the phrase comes from the notorious example of the powerful American company that secured its commercial interest simply by buying up all the leading politicians in Central America.

No one suggests that Flick ever achieved anything on that scale. Nor

were all donations intended to secure political influence. Many small firms were unclear about the rather hazy rules on supporting political parties.

Two questions arise from the Flick affair, however, which today's debate will have to clarify before the political establishment can clear its name. The first is how such a lamentable situation came about; the second is whether it could happen again.

The answer to the first is rooted in the special circumstances of Germany's postwar rebirth of democracy. The open support by big business of Hitler made German industry wary of getting involved in politics again, and politicians fearful of accepting direct contributions.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1984

David Watt

In the long run, a bad short cut

missions elsewhere, very thinly spread.

This compromise has sometimes been attacked as self-indulgent, but it has been justified by the lessons we have been given since the first oil shock. Britain's growing vulnerability in a shrinking globe demands a wider and more flexible early-warning system than previously.

You can always point to the margin and say that one less second secretary or one fewer mission would not make much difference and you can go on repeating this process of degradation until there is nothing left except a tiny core of representation in the developed western countries. But at some point along this line the machine will become too weakened to respond to the minimum demands made on it. At that point, I believe, is quite near.

Rather the same arguments apply to the BBC External Service and the British Council. Those ancillary means of promoting British influence are generally agreed to be a "good thing", and anyone who thinks they have an effect out of all proportion to the amount spent on them is quite right. The trouble, as in the case of the diplomatic service, is how to reply to the man from the Treasury who says it would not do much harm to cut out some broadcasts, say in French.

We are once again discussing marginal intangibles. We have been cutting them for a decade because it is easy to do. But here, too, we have nearly reached a critical point at which further cuts will leave institutions that are not worth preserving.

At first sight the aid programme looks a much simpler candidate for the axe. After all, any aid is better than none and who can say what is enough or what is appropriate? In practice, however, because it is a moral issue and because many British businesses have an interest in the exports associated with it, it is not nearly so clear-cut.

We have already cut our aid by 19 per cent in real terms since 1979; and by dint of juggling and rearranging payments we have on the whole managed to do so without reneging on previous commitments. But even without the Ethiopian crisis we have reached the end of that road. Any further cuts must now make embarrassing and possibly damaging dents in our bilateral relations with the Third World, as well as outraging the ethical considerations at the root of all economic aid.

The government does not seem to have given serious thought to the wider implications of what is proposed. That is partly the fault of the system which for all the panoply of the Star Chamber and so forth, still works on the basis of ministerial snatching-and-grab. But it is also the fault of the Foreign Secretary who, so far as I know, has never really tried to educate his colleagues on the importance of "intangibles".

Mr Lawson ought to reflect that in his case, unlike that of Archbishop Morton, he has a serious interest in the survival of his victim.

Philip Howard

A tax we should all stamp on

Let us not be beastly to the book trade. Some of my best friends are publishers. Some publishers are as intelligent as some of the authors on their lists; and you can take that any way you want. The bookellers are generous liberal-minded men. It would be brutal and philistine to impose VAT on books, magazines, and newspapers, so driving small country bookellers out of business, forcing publishers to cut lunch, and putting newspaper proprietors on the dole.

The recent remarkable crop of articles deplored the possible effect of a tax on publishing has been sown by the deliberately floated rumour that the Chancellor is thinking of extending VAT to publications in his next Budget. Since he will start to make up his mind on the matter around Christmas, now is the time for the trade to orchestrate its anticipatory protest; and now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party.

The argumentum ad misericordiam is a good one, but not I think, good enough. I pity the poor struggling publishers, and, as a matter of fact, think that they produce more important work than the miners, the distillers, ICI, and even the theatrical producers. But I am as good a position as anybody to know that more than 50 per cent of their products are trivial pap. Why should "newspapers" that are merely sheets for bingo, television programmes, and scandal go untaxed? Anyway, the function of the taxman is to extend his vise deprivations impartially and equally over all classes and professions of men.

The argumentum ad crumenam is a bad one, but not good enough. VAT on books and papers would hit most of the population in its pocket. But most of us would squeeze that bit extra to buy the new Iris Murdoch, or *The Times*, as it might be. In any case, if we were to charge what it actually costs to produce *The Times* even before the VAT man cometh, we should lose the legendary old lady with two cats in Hastings, who is our most important reader.

Let us avoid the argumentum ad populum and the argumentum ad baculum, at least for the moment. I think that the argumentum scholasticum is the best one yet. Schools and colleges and universities are

مكتبة مصر



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

JOINING THE CLUB

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese prime minister, who visits London next week, is a fairly patient man. That is just as well because the patience of the proverbial saint would certainly be required for the task which Dr Soares undertook more than seven and a half years ago: that of negotiating Portugal's admission to the European Community. Dr Soares himself has spent much of that time in opposition, but he returned to power last year to find Portugal's application still waiting on the resolution of differences within the existing EEC about the budget and Britain's contribution to it.

Those differences were at last resolved, more or less, at the Fontainebleau summit this June, and last month European ministers went so far as to announce that Portugal and the EEC were embarked on an "irreversible" process of integration. This was confirmed by an agreement in principle signed by Dr Soares and Dr Garret FitzGerald, and is understood to mean that all major problems directly relating to Portuguese membership have now been solved. Yet Portugal still waits for the outcome of negotiations with Spain, which applied for membership a few months after her, since everyone agrees that it makes sense for them to join simultaneously; those negotiations themselves are still marking time while the existing EEC members struggle to agree on a common negotiating position.

In fact it is increasingly obvious that these negotiations among the Ten are the *real* negotiations, and that the package which emerges from them will have to be accepted by the applicants with little substantive change. That is a problem for all who have to deal with the EEC, as Dr Kissinger long ago pointed out, and for those who have the choice it is a strong argument for being rather than out. If one is out, one is excluded from a decision-making process so complex and difficult that its results, once reached, are extremely hard to alter, if only

because all concerned are too exhausted to reopen the file.

Of course Spain and Portugal do in theory have the option of rejecting the package offered to them and deciding to stay out after all. There must be some temptation to exercise that option out of anger at the unconscionable time they have been kept waiting, and at the fact that such progress as is achieved towards a common position of the Ten seems almost always to take the form of concessions by those who would be relatively generous to those who would be tougher. That results from another unwritten but observable law of the Community's functioning, namely the tendency to drift towards the position of the country with the strongest national interest at stake. That in turn is the inevitable result of having a Community which remains essentially an association of sovereign states, despite its supranational trappings.

Luckily, however, the Iberian peoples and their political leaders are mature enough not to allow such crucial decisions to be taken in anger. They will express anger, no doubt, and perhaps use it to obtain a few concessions of detail. But when it comes to a yes or no they will, one can feel confident, accept that the balance of advantage for them is still in favour of a yes.

One reason for that is the one already alluded to, namely that a state once inside the Community has far greater leverage over its decisions than one on the outside. Even Britain, which had as the price of entry to accept a system of community finance which was fundamentally unfair to her, has eventually been able to get that corrected; and the "ungenerous" terms now likely to be offered to Spain and Portugal do not contain any such fundamental flaw as that. Most of the argument is about fisheries and food, and these are not areas where the two countries can conceivably find themselves actually worse off as a result of joining the EEC. What the lack of generosity amounts to is preventing them from benefiting

as much or as quickly as they would do if all the existing rules of the Community were applied to them without limitation and without delay.

To suppose that all those rules could have been applied to Spain without limit or alteration would certainly be naive. Some of them need altering in any case, irrespective of Spanish entry which simply injects an extra urgency into the case for an overdue reform: the most flagrant example being the wine lake which, thanks to Italian overproduction and before any Spanish tributary flows into it, already fills the equivalent of 24,000 Olympic swimming pools, because at present all unsold wine is automatically bought from the producers and distilled into alcohol. The French government is rightly insisting that this arrangement must in future be subject to a quota system — similar to that which France is having such difficulty in applying to milk, though in fact for wine it is much easier to operate. On this issue it is Italy rather than Spain that is going to have to accept a sacrifice — though it looks as if Signor Craxi will resist as the way to the Dublin summit at the beginning of next month.

The Spanish government has an additional reason for saying yes without further delay. It is committed to hold a referendum on Nato membership in February 1986 and all the signs are that it now wants Spain to remain in Nato, though probably on "French" terms i.e. without integration of its military forces. Even this will not be easy to sell to the Spanish voters, who lack the experience of common resistance to Nazism and are still prone to associate Nato with support for the Franco dictatorship. It would almost certainly be impossible in an atmosphere soured by failure to achieve membership of the EEC, whereas the immediate aftermath of Spain's full accession to the family of European democracies on January 1, 1986 would surely be the most auspicious timing that could be asked.

HARD CASE, GOOD LAW

Hard cases make bad law, it is said, and the Law Lords who exonerated the Home Secretary yesterday from having abused his powers over parole of prisoners showed a true legal instinct in not letting themselves be swayed by the bad luck that had undoubtedly been suffered by the four prisoners who accused him. Mr Brittan stands vindicated in law, and it is good that the law affords him the discretion to act as he did.

It was at last year's Conservative Party conference that he announced the policy change which led to his being hauled before the House of Lords. He was faced there with a delicate double problem of prison overcrowding and public outcry about over-lenient sentences. It was difficult to act on the former without incurring the disfavour of delegates who still had Parliament's recent rejection of capital punishment freshly in mind. So he counterbalanced an announcement of earlier parole for several thousand short-term offenders by announcing that he would apply much stricter parole policies towards very serious offenders. Some categories of murderer, including those who killed police or prison officers or killed in the course of armed robbery, would normally have to serve at least 20 years before having any hope of parole.

This mollified the delegates, but caused distress elsewhere. Mr Brittan had omitted to consult the Parole Board in advance: several members ex-

pressed dismay, and one resigned. The probation officers called the change "cruel and inhumane", and the Prison Officers Association complained that in dealing with lifers its members would now be denied "carrot as well as stick".

But the most immediately affected were four prisoners who had been on the edge of being granted parole. Two of them with life sentences had been moved to an open prison (an acknowledged preliminary to parole). On the day of Mr Brittan's announcement, they were moved back into a closed prison, and on strict application of the new rules now have five and nine years to wait before they can expect release. For men with "exemplary" prison records, Lord Scarman said in his judgment yesterday, the disappointment had a "shattering impact".

Mr Brittan's action was contested in court on several grounds, and Lord Scarman rejects them one by one. Whatever courtesy might dictate, the statute does not oblige him to consult the Parole Board before formulating a new policy. Mr Brittan was not improperly fettering his own discretion because he made clear that although he would have a different general attitude in future, he would still have an eye for "genuinely exceptional circumstances".

He was not contravening the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (which forbids

the imposition of heavier penalties than "the one applicable at the time the offence was committed"), because parole is always a privilege and never a right.

This is hard, but right. There is a doctrine of legitimate expectation in the law of judicial review, says Lord Scarman, but it implies a right to judicial review, not to automatic freedom. It would have been open to Mr Brittan to exercise his discretion and apply the "exceptional circumstances" rubric to the disappointed men, but in general he was right to make it clear that he was going to apply a different policy on parole applications. It is impossible for a Home Secretary to make such decisions without having an open or tacit general policy, and spelling the policy out helps to minimize the uncertainties and disappointments inevitably involved in applying for parole.

In arriving at a policy, he necessarily takes into account not only the circumstances of the individual cases but also wider considerations of deterrence and retribution. Mr Brittan was responding to a perceived public anxiety that too little weight was being given to deterrence — an anxiety which could undermine confidence in the parole system if disregarded. There is everything to gain by spelling out that he means to take a more serious view of certain kinds of offence, so long as there is no question of applying an indiscriminate bar, and Mr Brittan has promised that he will not do that.

year's teaching contract in France had, to my surprise and disappointment, received no mail from England, despite a daily search of the "H" pigeonhole.

It was only on seeing a pile of unopened letters in the "E" pigeonhole that I realised the French porter had been accumulating letters for some fictitious Monsieur Esq.

Yours faithfully,

J. ANTHONY HART, Headmaster,

Reigate St Mary's Preparatory School, Chart Lane, Reigate, Surrey.

November 10.

From Sir Ronald Lindsay

Sir, I address my youngest boy as "Master" at his prep school, and his elder brothers now at their public schools as "Esquire".

When will they decide that their (verb) address to me will be "Father" in place of "Papa"?

Yours,

HOWARD CUNNINGTON,

The School of St David & St Katharine, Hillside Avenue, Hornsey, N8.

November 10.

Fully entitled?

From Mr J. Anthony Hart

Sir, Mrs Quest-Ritson's concern

(November 10) over the use of the term "Esquire" on envelopes re-

minded me that two months into a

teaching career

I produced a plan for a reduction in resources available to the Thameses

and to switch resources away

from acute medical services to other

care groups, and also away from

London to the more rural parts of

the regions.

The proposals for the teaching

district of this medical school serve

to illustrate the point.

Over the 10-year period the

framework suggests a reduction of

45 per cent in acute bed numbers, a

34 per cent reduction in maternity

beds, and a slight reduction in beds

for the elderly. The acute beds in our

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Japanese side of the fence

From Professor Yoshiko Furuki

Sir, I appreciated Mr Leather's letter (November 8) because it provided a view different from that old, stereotype image of the Japanese as mere imitators. May I contribute a few more facts in support of Mr Leather's analysis?

The three major newspapers in Japan have, among them, a subscription of 20 million copies. That means the majority of the adult population (regardless of the colour of their collar) read, every day, a paper comparable with *The Times*, *The Guardian* and the *Daily Telegraph* in quality.

According to a survey conducted every year for the past 15 years, 90 per cent of the Japanese consider themselves as belonging to "the middle class". Some critics consider this self-placement an illusion, but it is an illusion which has worked.

Japanese society is not as "structured" as some Britons think. Education, accompanied by efforts, can bring one up to the top of that 90 per cent bracket. One does not feel that his opportunity is limited by his father's occupation, his own class or accent.

There are many things I admire about this country. In fact, many Japanese, for generations, have tried to learn from you. And it is good to know that there are some people in this country who are ready to look at us in a different light. We would be very happy if such people should find a useful hint or two in that light. Yours sincerely,

YOSHIOKU FURUKI

(Professor of English,

Tsuda College, Tokyo).

Darwin College,

Cambridge.

November 8

Music in London

From Mr David Bedford and others

Sir, We are deeply disturbed by the

programme planning of the four

London symphony orchestra, which

includes almost entirely the work of

living composers. London is still

sometimes referred to as the musical

capital of the world, but a mere

glance at the activities of other

international music centres shows

that this is no longer remotely the

case.

As a nation, we are rightly proud

of our living writers, artists and

film-makers but, on the evidence of

the programmes for the present

concert season, appear to be ashamed

of contemporary composers.

As many events in London and

elsewhere have proved, there is a

substantial and enthusiastic audi-

ence for the music of today,

especially when presented with flair

and enterprise.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID BEDFORD,

MICHAEL BERKELEY,

BRIAN ELIAS,

JOONATHAN HARVEY,

JOHN HOPKINS,

COLIN MATTHEWS,

JOHN McCABE,

DOMINIC MULDOWNEY,

STEPHEN OLIVER,

ANTHONY PAYNE,

ROBERT SIMPSON,

TIM J. SOUTER,

The Association of Professional Composers,

81A Priory Road, NW6.

November 9

Religious instruction

From Mr Howard Cunningham

Sir, Your leader on religious instruc-

tion (October 31) was on the

whole balanced and fair but failed to

mention one current practice in

many secondary schools. I refer to

the integration of religious education

into a general social studies course

in the fourth and fifth years. Here is

where the subject is losing its

distinctiveness and cutting edge in

our school curriculum. Many people

teaching it have little or no religious

persuasion or sympathy with the

subject and unconsciously either

leave it out altogether or treat it as

pre-scientific myth.

Many schools are in fact (either

consciously or unconsciously) break-

ing the law of the land, as well as the

"

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Chancellor still talking down interest rates

A cut in base rates to help the British Telecom share sale along is still on the cards, assissted by some talking-down of rates by the Chancellor yesterday.

In answer to a parliamentary question, Mr Nigel Lawson said that "despite the miners' strike," and events in the US: "The level of interest rates in this country is no higher than it was at the last election, and indeed is set to go lower."

The money markets, bemused in the past couple of days by US deficit worries, woke up. The three-month interbank cased fractionally down to 9% 9 1/4%.

But so far this week, the Bank of England has refused to endorse a move to lower base rates. Today, a shortage of around £1 billion is expected in the money market, and optimistic dealers expect a cut in the Bank's dealing rates, to be followed by a half point off base rates, now 10 per cent, early next week.

On the day that the Governor of the Bank of England left for a week's visit to Russia, not too many secrets were being given away in the full money and banking figures for October.

Sterling M3 rose 0.3 per cent during the month, making an annualized increase of 9.3 per cent during the present target period. The corresponding figures for narrow money, M0, were 0.8 per cent and 6.1 per cent.

The bank lending figure of £2,130m remains something of an enigma. The figures only confirm earlier suspicions that very little of it was due to round-tripping. Net gilt sales during banking October totalled £880m and national savings £220m.

A better clue to the case for lower interest rates may be provided by yesterday's statistics on the real economy. Capital expenditure in the third quarter, £4.25m at 1980 prices, was virtually unchanged on the second quarter and has been flat through 1984. Stocks were also little changed.

The stockbroker Wood, Mackenzie has put these figures together with the date on consumer spending, exports and imports and come up with a "flash" estimate of third quarter expenditure gross domestic product. This, it argues, is up just 0.4 per cent on the previous quarter and only 1 per cent on a year earlier. Official gdp figures, based on the output measure, are due out on Monday and are expected to show no change in the third quarter.

If the Treasury's new growth forecasts are to be achieved, rates may have to be talked down rather louder.

Note of caution on City revolution

When the structure of City institutions is changing as rapidly as the framework in which they operate, the consequences of change are hard to predict. But as more parts of the jigsaw fall into place, it becomes increasingly apparent that changes now afoot will lead to a very different cultural environment.

This will be evident particularly in the degree and scale of risk which institutions will find themselves assuming and also in the changing nature of their relationships with other City institutions. The government securities market of the future will be a prime example of this.

Yesterday, Mr Gordon Pepper, of W. Greenwell delivered a paper to the Society of Investment Analysts giving virtually the first considered City reaction to the Bank of England's recent proposals. Mr Pepper has a number of reservations which boil down to two central themes.

Liffe set to launch options contracts

By Michael Prest

The London International Financial Futures Exchange is expected to throw its weight behind the rapidly expanding options market by announcing soon that it will start trading options based on Liffe futures contracts next year.

In a speech delivered to Japanese and other members of Liffe in Tokyo yesterday, Mr Michael Jenkins, the exchange's chief executive, said: "One

development during 1985 will be the introduction of option contracts. We have completed a major study of this area and we hope to announce our plans shortly."

Liffe sources in London said last night that currency options, an increasingly popular instrument, were the most attractive but their introduction presented technical problems. Liffe's currency futures contracts have

been disappointing. The alternatives are options on Liffe's long gilt and three-month Eurodollar futures contracts.

Mr Jenkins also offered Liffe's help in setting up a financial futures market in Tokyo. Trading in Japanese bond futures is expected to start next year. Mr Jenkins added: "In the longer term, there is the possibility that Liffe may trade a Japanese bond contract."

US considers 'teaching' Europe how to run its economies

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The Reagan Administration is considering as one of its new foreign policy objectives a programme to teach European governments how to encourage "supply-side" policies to bolster their economies.

Officials monitoring the policy talks at the White House this week said that several proposals designed to ease Europe's economic problems had been presented to the President as "new initiatives" to be adopted.

Administration officials are concerned that high unemployment and "a lack of dynamism" in European economies will translate into political unrest and diminished security unless strong action is taken.

Although they admit that the Administration's proposed remedies are "still pretty primitive", they said the important development likely to result from the meetings was a broad consensus that the US Government must take steps to

improve Europe's economic health for strategic reasons. However, there is lack of unanimity on how the US Government can do this, particularly among conservative and moderate advisers who disagree philosophically over proposed remedies.

On one side are the "hard line supply-siders" who believe that a "US model" of big tax cuts and sharp reductions in social programmes should be held up to European governments as the approach to adopt.

Moderates in the Administration are pressing a less didactic approach centred on government spending reductions and incentive programmes for private industry.

The US Treasury officials stated before this week's meetings their concern that European governments are attempting to correct their unemployment problems with what they consider the wrong sorts of remedies.

Oil profits soar as minister predicts rush for licences

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The importance of the British oil industry to the economy was underlined by the announcement yesterday of increased profits from two leading oil companies, a report of record drilling activity and the announcement by the Government that the forthcoming round of new licences in the North Sea is likely to be oversubscribed.

Mr Alistair Buchanan-Smith, the Energy Minister, who had expected to place up to 80 new offshore exploration licences with the oil companies, said last night in Aberdeen that the ninth licensing round, for which applications close on December 17, will be a success.

He said: "This confirms the international oil industry's long-term commitment to the UK. Although we will not know the complete picture until after the closing date, I am optimistic

that the action we took to attract the companies to open up the deep water and frontier areas will pay off.

The signs are that the ninth round will be a success. But our offshore industry cannot afford to sit back and wait for the orders to come in."

BP yesterday reported a replacement cost profit increase for the first nine months of this year of £943 million, up 30 per cent compared with the same period last year. Earnings in the third quarter of this year rose to £131 million compared with £239 million in the same period in 1983. Profits on oil exploration and production were little changed at £532 million compared with £528 million in the second quarter. The fall in the dollar oil price was cancelled by the rise in the value of the dollar against sterling.

BP Oil, the sector of the company which refines and sells petrol and operates the company's tanker fleet, reversed previous results to record a £10 million profit. The chemical sector continued to improve. A loss of £66 million in the first nine months of last year had been converted to a profit of £60 million this year. The company's US subsidiary, Sohio, contributed profits of £202 million.

Ultramar, one of Britain's leading independent oil companies, yesterday reported that its profits in the first nine months of this year rose to a record £186 million from £113.9 million in the same period last year. Turnover was up from £1,332.5 million to £2,330.8 million.

Unlike most other oil companies, however, Ultramar has not entirely benefited from the fall in sterling against the dollar.

adding to profits from oil priced in dollars. The strong dollar has resulted in a far greater fall in world natural gas prices than recent oil price cuts.

With Ultramar's gas production from Indonesia playing an important role in the company's fortunes this has had a significant effect on profits. Of the profits announced by Ultramar, 50 per cent came from Indonesia, 35 per cent from the North Sea and the remainder from its refining, marketing and shipping operations in Canada, the US and Britain.

The independent energy adviser Gaffney Cline and Associates yesterday reported that oil drilling in the seas around Britain has reached record levels. The success rate is dropping, with one in seven holes drilled showing oil or gas, but this ratio still compares favourably with other areas.

Index falls 12 points

Despite a relatively firm showing in gilt which saw shorts ahead by 1/2 point, equities retreated yesterday, ignoring a forecast by the Chancellor that interest rates were about to fall. Share prices, as measured by the FT 30 Share Index, dropped by 12.1 to 911.6. Dealers attributed the fall to nervous selling ahead of the Telecom flotation. Sterling slipped 5 points against the dollar to \$1.2615.

Market report, page 20

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT SE 100 Index: 1164.9 down

16.6 (high: 1179.5; low: 1164.7)

FT Index: 911.6 down 12.1

FT Gilts: 83.20 down 0.08

FT All Share: 552.11 down 5.99

Bargains: 21,657

London Stock SM Leaders Index: 105.49 down 0.04

New York Dow Jones Industrial Average: (Interest) 1207.15 up 0.22

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,301.62 down 19.28

Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1074.84 down 3.09

CURRENCIES

Sterling LONDON CLOSE Index 76.5 unchanged (range 76.5-76.4)

\$1.2615 down 5 pnts

DM 3.7450 down 0.0050

Frt 11.4750 down 0.03

Yen 306.00 up 0.25

Dollar Index 139.1 up 0.3

DM 2.9605 down 0.0065

NEW YORK LATEST Sterling \$1.2625

Dollar DM 2.9625

INTERNATIONAL ECU 50.6824

SDR 20.755160

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 10

Finance houses base rate 1.1

Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10

3 month interbank 9% - 9 1/2%

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 9% - 9 1/2%

3 month DM 5% - 5 1/2%

3 month Fr F11% - 11 1/2%

US rates:

Bank prime rate 11.75

Fed funds 9%

Treasury long bond 100% - 100 1/2%

ECB Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period October 3 to November 6 1984. Inclusive: 10.616 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$345.35 pm \$343.75

close \$343.75 - \$344.25 (227.50-273)

New York (Interest): \$344.25

Buyers' and sellers' (per ounce):

\$354 - 355.50 (\$280.75 - 281.75)

Sovereigns (navy): \$81 - 82 (\$84.25 - 85)

*Excludes VAT

Guinness goes for health

Arthur Guinness, the brewing to retailing group, is expected to announce today the £3 million acquisition of Champneys, claimed to be Europe's premier name in spa health resorts.

Champneys is located on two sites. Its head office is set in 170 acres of Hertfordshire woodland in Tring. Its other resort is

Stobc Castle, south of Edinburgh. Champneys is being sold by BAT Industries.

The move by Guinness into the health and fitness market represents a significant development away from traditional business since Mr Ernest Saunders, chief executive, rescued the debt-laden brewery group

in 1947, will now go back to being a private company.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The LCE and its members will move early in 1987 when the leases on existing space fall in.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest in a multi-million pound telecommunication system in the new building.

The ned to have large market floors is of primary importance to the LCE and the new Commodity Exchange will be built with this in mind. The LCE will invest

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Flotation nerves depress shares

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

The Stock market became edgy yesterday ahead of the massive British Telecom share flotation. Both leading market indicators finished at their lowest level of the day.

The FT 30-share index closed with a 1.21 points fall to 911, and the much more broadly based "footsie" ended at 1,164.9 points, down 16.6.

The swing from euphoria to depression was due to the end of the BT-inspired buying wave rather than to sustained selling.

Until the expected BT success is confirmed, many investors are expected to sit on the sidelines. The market expects a 130p price with 50p down and two 40p calls to be announced today. Talk is that the BT shares are likely to command a premium of up to 20p.

Poor half-year figures from Plessey lowered the shares 16p to 212p. Other electrics retreated.

The Chancellor's statement that he expected interest rates to fall soon came too late to offer much heart to the market which was already pondering predictions of higher transatlantic rates.

But Rank Organisation enjoyed its own type of "Telecom" influence with the shares 14p higher at 278p at one stage.

The office equipment to leisure group is busily selling off chunks, aiming to concentrate on the leisure industry. City men reckon the latest sale is Telecom Plus, a North American associate communications company involved in cellular radio in the US. Throgmorton Street talk is that Rank will make a \$50 million (£63 million) profit on the sale of its 30 per cent in Telecom.

Mr Douglas Yates, finance director at Rank, would not comment, but he says: "We are following the policy laid down in the chairman's interim statement". In brief, that policy is "sell, sell, sell" on the non-leisure side.

Market rumours also lifted the shares of United Scientific Holdings, the armoured vehicles and optical equipment

group. The price rose 8p to 226p as speculators chatted about a bid for USH from Vickers. Both sides strongly denied the suggestion, and Mr Peter Levene, chairman and managing director at USH, said: "It just looks like a further recovery in the share price after the recent strong markdown".

Full-year results are due from

Allied-Lyons, the beer to food group, sell 2p to 171p yesterday. Fielding, Newson-Smith, the broker, expects interim profits, due this month, to emerge at £101 million, against £95 million last time. But analysts Mr Neil Scourse and Mr Tom Corran believe their year's projection of £219 million (£194.9 million) may be "a bit on the demanding side".

USH next month, and Mr Levene had lunch with the company brokers, Scridgeour, Kemp-Gee, yesterday, but he said: "We did not talk about USH".

Government stocks had a quiet session, although the Chancellor's statement offered a late fillip with prices returning to overnight levels.

TI Group, strong on Wednesday, had another active day, at one time recording a 10p gain to 228p, as it appeared that some determined buyers lurked. The shares closed at 226p.

P & O, the shipping group, was another FT 30 constituent to buck the downward trend. It closed 3p higher at 302p, as some market men took the view that any merger between P & O and Sterling Guarantee Trust would probably be effected by P & O bid for SGT.

Smiths Industries suffered alongside Plessey, falling 26p to 634p. Smiths this week reported a near 35 per cent rise in full-year profits, but on a static turnover, and analysts are beginning to look askance at prospects there.

Quilter Goodison, the brokers, believe the current market rating for Smiths is too high, because sales in the group's two

main areas of work, aerospace and medical equipment, are not growing strongly enough.

Racial also lost ground, dropping 14p to 268p. The Plessey results, and vague market chat of acquisition activity at Racial, hurt the share price.

PSM International, the West Midlands engineering group, made a sound start, touching 151p from its 140p offer price.

Bearham Group, the rapidly expanding services group, returned to market after its latest acquisition, a computerized typesetting business, at 310p before easing to 295p. Suspension price was 305p.

Confusion reigned for a time over shares of Johnson Matthey. At first the shares were marked higher. But then it transpired that they were being traded in their ex-preference rights form. The price was then cut to 113p, down 15p, and determined attempts were made to unscramble earlier deals.

LWT Holdings gained 7p to 275p on its 96 per cent profits gain.

Octopus Publishing continued to score from the realisation of the advantages which should flow from its £21 million takeover of Websters Group. The Octopus shares gained a further 35p to 840p.

Marks and Spencer fell 6p to 119p following a cautious brokers' circular.

The Compton Brothers shipping group closed 23p to 90p on its operating losses and Readon Smith "A" lost 2½p to only 4p in sympathy.

The helicopter makers Westland Aircraft dipped 7p to 129p as market men heard criticism in the trade press of the group's interests in California. Mr Hugh Stewart, finance director at Westland, denied talk of a more than \$20 billion bill for taking on the business of Airspur at Los Angeles.

Westland has turned Airspur into a leasing company, and will be placing its W30 civil helicopters through it. This arrangement allows Westland effectively to own a California carrier without upsetting American sensibilities about foreign ownership of airlines.

please and its shares retreated to 13p to 238p. Shell lost 8p to 645p. Amrit Petroleum came in for speculative attention, gaining 7p to 55p.

Lex Service Group had another poor day after its brokers' lunch this week. The shares fell another 3p to 303p. Profit forecasts are now being downgraded - from about £54m to £49m.

Nova, the Danish insulin group, gained 75p to £19.75 following a cautious brokers' circular.

The appearance of G. M. Firth at East Lancashire Paper, fighting off a bid from British Syphon, continued to influence the shares. East Lancs rose 2p to 95p as Firth, headed by a former Slater Walker man, Mr Ian Wasserman, lifted its shareholding to 9.2 per cent.

Johnson Group Cleaners gained 4p to 448p after the takeover bid from Nottingham Manufacturing was given the government all clear.

It seems reasonable to assume that returns from Plessey's involvement with BT will be less attractive than before. Hence, perhaps, the considerable prominence in the chairman's statement of the American market.

The timing of the BT flotation and Plessey's sudden realization that the British market is far too small to accommodate its growth plans may be coincidental. But the group hopes to become a big player in the biggest game in town, presumably reducing in the process its historic dependence on a major customer.

The market is sceptical.

Plessey shares fell 10p to 218p

on the results yesterday, continuing the marked underperformance of the last year. Perhaps Plessey is just too late to try to go it alone.

LEP GROUP: Six months to June 30. Interim div 1.25p (0.8p). The final div will be dependent on the results for the years to June 30, 1983 and 1984. Turnover £2.85 (27.962). Pre-tax profit 3,110 (864.2).

The board reports that benefits of the extensive reorganization in 1983 and the general improvement in world trade are now being reflected in results. This improvement in performance is spread throughout the group.

On the investment trust pitches, Anglo Scottish II announced an agreed bid from Japan Assets Trust. JAT is paying roughly 167.40p for each Anglo share, with a mixture of cash, shares, warrants and loan stock. The market price of Anglo dipped 1p to 157p following the news, and JAT saw its price slip 3p to 38p.

Despite the price rise, the seminar appears to have left some analysis uneasy about the company's internal forecasting systems.

Harrow Life Assurance closed 3p higher at 443p, after yesterday's excitement. Charterhouse J. Rothschild, which has nearly 25 per cent of HLA and is rumoured to want to sell its shareholding, fell 2p to 88p.

Lasme was unchanged at 358p. The market is becoming more and more enticed by the company's exploration prospects. More than 260 wells may be drilled next year.

Staveley Industries fell 12p to 280p after its disappointing interim statement. But M. J. Gleeson, the civil engineering and building group, rose 12p to 250p after its 39 per cent profits advance.

Monument Oil & Gas returned to the sidelines yesterday, leaving the shares 3p lower at 27p. Monument, the US-listed oil interests of Minster Assets, has to be brought for cash until the shares are registered in mid-January. The need to pay real money seems to have put some investors off, and at the same time a few sellers are in evidence. Nevertheless, market

men are waiting for the next move from Mr Paul Bristol, whose Bristol Oil & Minerals now holds 14.6 per cent of Monument, having coughed up cash for extra shares when dealings first began in Monument on Monday.

The appearance of G. M. Firth at East Lancashire Paper, fighting off a bid from British Syphon, continued to influence the shares. East Lancs rose 2p to 95p as Firth, headed by a former Slater Walker man, Mr Ian Wasserman, lifted its shareholding to 9.2 per cent.

Johnson Group Cleaners gained 4p to 448p after the takeover bid from Nottingham Manufacturing was given the government all clear.

It seems reasonable to assume that returns from Plessey's involvement with BT will be less attractive than before. Hence, perhaps, the considerable prominence in the chairman's statement of the American market.

The timing of the BT flotation and Plessey's sudden realization that the British market is far too small to accommodate its growth plans may be coincidental. But the group hopes to become a big player in the biggest game in town, presumably reducing in the process its historic dependence on a major customer.

The market is sceptical.

Plessey shares fell 10p to 218p

on the results yesterday, continuing the marked underperformance of the last year. Perhaps Plessey is just too late to try to go it alone.

LEP GROUP: Six months to June 30. Interim div 1.25p (0.8p). The final div will be dependent on the results for the years to June 30, 1983 and 1984. Turnover £2.85 (27.962). Pre-tax profit 3,110 (864.2).

The board reports that benefits of the extensive reorganization in 1983 and the general improvement in world trade are now being reflected in results. This improvement in performance is spread throughout the group.

TEMPUS

Plessey wakes up to a changing world

Plessey's interim results look disappointing, but arguably the market should look through the raw statistics and concentrate on the accompanying statement. It amounts to a mood piece; whether Plessey is in the late eighties?

The increasing volatility of markets looks to be the dominant theme of Sir John Clark's comments as chairman. Hence total exports dropped by more than a fifth, and sales by overseas companies were down by nearly 5 per cent.

More significantly, the home market also sounds fairly difficult. The chairman aims a couple of sideways at the Chancellor's new fiscal regime. Phasing out capital allowances apparently destroyed the cable TV market overnight, losing Plessey £600,000 as it withdrew.

Relations with British Telecom, which charges Plessey with perhaps a third of its business, are also changing quite rapidly. On one hand, BT's impending flotation has led its management to adopt a far more conventional approach to the profit and loss statement. On the other, Plessey is now tooling up very rapidly, in working capital terms, to begin delivering its share of 1.7 million new System X lines by the year-end.

It seems reasonable to assume that returns from Plessey's involvement with BT will be less attractive than before. Hence, perhaps, the considerable prominence in the chairman's statement of the American market.

The timing of the BT flotation and Plessey's sudden realization that the British market is far too small to accommodate its growth plans may be coincidental. But the group hopes to become a big player in the biggest game in town, presumably reducing in the process its historic dependence on a major customer.

The 15 per cent sales rise

contained volume gains of 7 to

7.5 per cent in Kwik Save stores less than two years old and 1.5 per cent gains in older stores. The new wines and spirits outlets contributed 1.4 per cent to the sales rise and the five new freezer centres 0.2 per cent.

Wines and spirits are selling well, but were not profitable last year. They are expected to break even this year.

Expansion plans continue

and at least 35 more stores are planned this year against 40 last year. There will be no difficulty finding the growth

with a cash pile of 22 million over the year-end against £19 million a year before. Capital

expenditure is estimated at £20 million this year against £16 million last year.

With the increase in space, profits should continue to rise, even if margins remain hard to budge. Trading this year, however, has been flat and is only now beginning to pick up.

The cheapness of fresh food, which has helped Tesco to increase its margins, was partly to blame.

Downstream, the European market was weak, as prices in local currencies rose, while demand was fairly static. But profits were £10 million, compared with market forecasts of just break-even.

Chemicals, however, produced £9 million profits in the traditionally weak third-quarter, rather worse than seasonally warranted.

Sohio was hit by lower

margins on oil products plus

tariff pressures on its pipeline business, and an unchanged

sterling outturn conceals a 17 per cent profits fall in dollar terms.

Analysts say the tax charge

looks unnaturally low, but

conversely BP is busy building its own cash mountain. In the last nine months cash balances have risen by £700 million.

Kwik Save

Discount Group

Kwik Save's 16 per cent pre-tax profit rise to £31.8 million was in line with expectations.

Trading margins, after stripping out concession and other

rental income, were unchanged at 3.7 per cent, indicating that it is not easy to squeeze more out of Kwik Save's limited range discount formula.

The 15 per cent sales rise

contained volume gains of 7 to

7.5 per cent in Kwik Save stores less than two years old and 1.5 per cent gains in older stores. The new wines and

spirits outlets contributed 1.4 per cent to the sales rise and the five new freezer centres 0.2 per cent.

Wines and spirits are selling

well, but were not profitable

last year. They are expected to break even this year.

Expansion plans continue

and at least 35 more stores are

planned this year against 40

last year. There will be no

difficulty finding the growth

with a cash pile of 22 million

over the year-end against £19

million a year before. Capital

expenditure is estimated at

£20 million this year against £16

million last year.

Like Commercial Union,

Royal regards an improvement in its US performance as an "overriding priority".

The company is cutting staff and agents, and is refining its book of business.

It already claims success in

raising premium costs worldwide without significant loss of business.

Benefits will not

show through until late next

year, but with its shares at

around 500p Royal looks on

course for a healthy prospective yield of about 7.5 per cent.

Here's where the advantages of

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Success is thinking small

By John Lawless

St Helens has overcome the insurmountable. It has set up a fund dedicated to raising small amounts of cash for growing firms in its own town - and has had it heavily oversubscribed.

It is now making investment cash in the £20,000 to £50,000 range available to local firms. Those are just the sort of amounts which, to the extreme frustration of industrial development officials throughout the country, makes the noses of nationally-based investment fund managers turn up.

The achievement of the St Helens Business Expansion Scheme Syndicate is all the remarkable because the only other serious attempt to set up such a fund was also in

Lancashire - in the Rossendale constituency of no less a person of clout than Small Business Minister David Trippier. It failed to attract much more than a fifth of its target of £500,000 - though the fact that it was launched just before Christmas last year had much to do with its demise.

St Helens aimed at £200,000, got £235,000 by the closing date and had another £8,000 offered within the next few days.

Since July, it has been putting cash into local enterprises. A new company making gym equipment got £25,000. But the next £35,000 invested went into an industry that would make most outside fund managers get caught for speeding away down the M62: a foundry.

It was judged by the St Helens fund to be a good bet. Its main competitor, making large chemical pots, was closing - leaving a fair slice of the market to be taken up through expansion.

It will soon invest a similar amount in a transport-related business and has plenty of other prospects in its portfolio.

Run uniquely like an investors club, syndicate members put cash into a solicitor's client fund and agree to waive the interest they would otherwise get. This trim the cost to firms getting the cash to just 2½ per cent.

The fund was the brainchild of David Boult, director of the enterprise agency, the St Helens Trust.

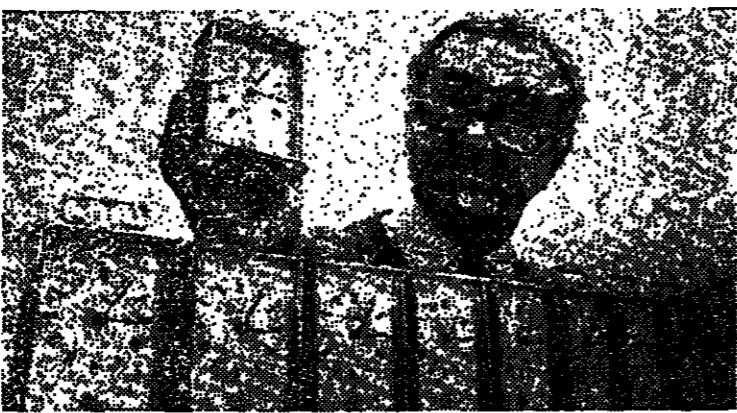
Nobody will call time on them

Out of the closure of the Smith Industries' clock factory at Wishaw, near Glasgow, last year has risen a company which now boasts being the only manufacturer of high quality, all-British decorative timepieces. The St James' Clock Company is just three months old and already on course for the £300,000 annual turnover needed to stay in business.

This workers' co-operative was launched using a total of £15,000 redundancy money from ten former Smith employees and a series of loans.

The Scottish Development Agency granted it a 12 months rent "holiday" - worth £8,000 - for their 6,000 square foot factory on a local business park. Smith Industries have allowed the company to lease equipment with an option to purchase in 1985.

The co-operative was set up after a market survey and general manager Ewan Robb said: "It



Ewan Robb knows time is a precious commodity.

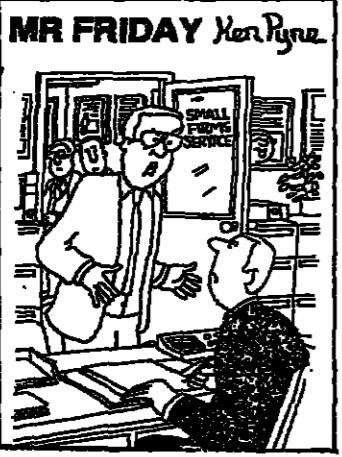
identified a possible life raft in the shape of an all-brass carriage clock from the many lines manufactured by Smiths. All the signs said the prospects were good. Now the firm is

up to its target of about 400 clocks a week and has orders from a number of leading jewellers including Mapin & Webb. Unlike most competing clocks from Germany and Japan, which are largely made from alloy, the St James' Clock is solid brass and uses British movements and quartz drive. They are aimed to retail at between £165 and £300.

Mr Webb claims big clock-makers, forced to cut margins to compete with cheap foreign competitors, denied themselves room to manoeuvre in a fashion-dominated market and end up retailing at between £165 and £300.

St James aims to stay small but profitable. "Many of us are in our fifties and that will ensure we make the most of this because there is no other future for us. Self-preservation is a great motivator," said Mr Robb.

The Scottish Co-operatives Development Committee, which has overseen St James, claims that up to 90 per cent of firms under their guidance have survived and prospered.



Franchise arrangement should be a partnership based on mutual trust. But some franchisees cheat, by under-declaring their sales, thereby robbing their mother-company of revenue. Spicer and Pepler, the chartered accountants, show how to tackle these sort of problems in a booklet Financial Aspects of Franchising. Contact: Spicer and Pepler, St Mary Axe House, London EC3A 8BZ.

"Given that the average agency consumes no more than £25,000 per annum of resources and that to maintain an individual on the unemployment register will cost £5,000, the creation of 164 jobs a year makes an enterprise agency a social investment of more than blue chip standing." That is one conclusion of John Guest, seconded from Cadbury Schweppes as regional director of Business in the Community, in his report The Broadening Role of Enterprise Agencies. Contact: Business in the Community, 227A City Road, London EC1V 1LX.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

First Class Investment

Totally secure property based investment for Substantial Capital Growth.

Capital required

#£200,000

Telephone 01-930 7242
Simon Tyler or Paul Marks
Chase de Vere (Pall Mall) Ltd
125, Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5EA

MAKE YOUR LIFETIME'S EXPERIENCE WORK FOR YOU

We're looking for executives with real front-line business experience. Men and women who want to make a profit from the skills they've learned during their working lives.

You'll become a full Associate of a thriving UK-based consultancy. From your own efforts, and an investment of between £5-£10,000, make an annual income that should repay your investment several times over.

Initially, and in confidence, please write or telephone:

Mr Paul Prince
Marketing & Management Consultants
P.H. Prince & Associates Limited
27 Nelson Drive, Mistley, Chelmsford
Essex CM1 3JG. Tel: 0376 474585
After 5pm or Weekends

Invest in your International Links

The opportunity has arisen for individuals or organisations with existing international connections to invest and participate in a unique area which offers a specialist service to multinational companies who move people and capital at senior level.

To find out more about this investment opportunity, please contact:

PETER BLOOMFIELD,
7, Carlos Place, Mayfair,
London, W1Y 5AE

LONDON-BASED GROUP OF COMPANIES

In the specialist contracting, employment business & security field, we are seeking prospective associates with capital to invest in development/maturity.

Please write to Barnes Group,
23 St Thomas St, London SE1.
After 5pm

WE ARE A SMALL profitable, a rapidly expanding Co offering a range of services in the security field. The Company, with offices in London, Scotland, Northern Ireland, 4 years & has a 1/4 approaching 2000. The development potential is enormous. We are looking for people who would welcome discussions on the possibility of becoming involved. We are interested in investing in the Co in a joint venture basis, with management potential. Box No 2191 W Times.

FREE HOTEL accommodation, free insurance, free discount card. Offer to accommodate at choice of almost 1000 hotels worldwide. Call our toll-free number for your profits. Call 041 244 2442 for details.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Applicants will require £25,000 capital & a desire to build their own successful business.

They will receive all the backing and active support necessary to succeed.

For more details, contact:

Alan Vaughan, ServiceMaster Ltd,
50 Commercial Square, London
EC2V 7SR, or ring 0333 5426230.

Success - The UK's foremost profit-generating service organisation is looking for new associates in the UK.

Miller is re-elected Lloyd's chairman

Lloyd's of London: Mr Peter Miller has been elected chairman of Lloyd's insurance market for another year from January 1. Mr Murray Lawrence was elected senior deputy chairman and Mr David Coleridge deputy junior chairman for the same period.

Myton: Mr D. M. Rogers has become chairman in addition to managing director. He will succeed Mr Barton Higgs who is retiring. Mr W. G. E. Mills has been made deputy managing director and Mr E. R. Frondegg, a divisional director of Taylor Woodrow Construction, will join the board of Myton as a non-executive director on January 1.

Shotton Paper: Mr Michael Heffernan has been made sales director.

Northern Investors Co: Mr Fred Turnbull has joined the board.

Vantona Viyella: Mr J. L. Hewitt, group board director for the menswear division will become the group strategy director on January 1. Mr W. McEwan will be joining the group next week as a group board director, taking over the menswear division.

A. Cohen & Co: Mr C. Alders Cohen will be taking over as chairman from Mr Robert Cohen who is retiring but will remain on the board. Mr Matti Pyikkanen and Mr Roger Cohen will be joint managing directors and Mr Jim Ferguson, has become a director.

British Invisible Exports Council: The Earl of Limerick has become chairman in succession to the late Mr G. W. Mackworth-Young.

Throgmorton Investment Management: Lord Ezra of Horsham, has become a director.

Gestetner Holdings: Mr Robert Gardner has been made a member of the group management board and chairman of gestetner manufacturing.

Mitel Telecom: Mr David Rayfield has been made vice-president, engineering.

Bradbury Wilkinson: Mr Daniel A. Stewart and Sir David Scott have become non-executive directors of the main board.

British American Tobacco Co: Mr W. J. Dickson has become a director.

APPOINTMENTS

Readicut International: Mr Mark Fielden has joined the board.

Sun Alliance: Mr R. J. Taylor

has been appointed general manager, home division: Mr J.

G. Fordyce and Mr J. H.

Bishop have become assistant

general managers in the same

division. Mr K. Wilkinson has

been made general manager,

overseas division and Mr R.

Petty, Mr T. A. Hayes and Mr

C. C. Huke are assistant general

managers in that division. Mr

J. C. F. Peters has become

group aviation manager and

underwriter and Mr D. Town

will become group marine

manager.

Northern Investors Co: Mr

Fred Turnbull has joined the

board.

Vantona Viyella: Mr J. L.

Hewitt, group board director for

the menswear division will

become the group strategy

director on January 1. Mr W.

McEwan will be joining the

group next week as a group

board director, taking over the

menswear division.

A. Cohen & Co: Mr C.

Alders Cohen will be taking

over as chairman from Mr

Robert Cohen who is retiring

but will remain on the board.

Mr Matti Pyikkanen and Mr

Roger Cohen will be joint

managing directors and Mr Jim

Ferguson, has become a director.

British Invisible Exports

Council: The Earl of Limerick

has become chairman in suc-

cession to the late Mr G. W.

Mackworth-Young.

Throgmorton Investment

Management: Lord Ezra of

Horsham, has become a direc-

tor.

Gestetner Holdings: Mr Robert Gardner has been made

a member of the group manage-

ment board and chairman of ges-

tetner manufacturing.

Mitel Telecom: Mr David

Rayfield has been made vice-

president, engineering.

Bradbury Wilkinson: Mr

Daniel A. Stewart and Sir

David Scott have become non-

executive directors of the main

board.

British American Tobacco

Co: Mr W. J. Dickson has

become a director.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER FINANCE (AUSTL): No dividend (same) revenue for the year to September 30 (figures in AS '000) - 156,804 (129,33). Pre-tax profit 12,075 (10,628). Depreciation and amortization 1,361 (807). Personnel costs 14,013 (9,923). Other operating expenses 21,414 (13,258).

FITZWILTON: Year to June 30. Final 1p, making 2p (same). Figs in Irish 2000. Turnover 6,585 (5,620). Pre-tax profit 1,456 (561).

RENOIL: Half-year to end Sept. Figs in millions of pounds. Turnover 58.2 (57.6). Trading profit 3.7 (0.2). Pre-tax profit 1.4 (loss 2.6).

T. C. HARRISON: T. C. Harrison Group, a new company promoted by Messrs Edward Harrison, John Harrison and George Reed, all currently directors of T. C. Harrison who together with their wife, Natalie, own 57.1 per cent of the shares, will offer to acquire the rest of the capital at 74p cash for each ordinary share.

INTERNATIONAL THOMSON ORGANISATION: International Thomson Organisation (ITOL) has declared a dividend of 8.25 United States cents per ITOL common share (an increase of 13.8 per cent over the dividend paid in July). International Thomson Organisation PLC (ITOPLC) has declared a pound sterling equivalent dividend of 6.25p per ITOPLC common share, both payable on January 15.

ALIED IRISH BANK: half-year to Sept 30. Intn. Div. 4.5p (4.5p) on accumulated capital. Figs. in millions of Irish pounds. EPS 17.7p (13.2p).

The board reports that results are in line with expectations. The recession in the Republic of Ireland has resulted in their continuation of a high level of bad debts charged against profit and the bank does not foresee any improvement in the second half.

BRITISH TRUST REINVESTMENT: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO: B.A.T. has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH TELECOM: BTR has declared a dividend of 4.5p per share on its 100 million ordinary shares.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: BA has declared a dividend of 1.5p per share on its

Midland House Mortgage Rate

Midland Bank announces that, with effect from Saturday 1st December 1984 its House Mortgage Rate will be reduced by 1% to 12.5% per annum. APR 13.1%.



Midland Bank

Midland Bank plc, 27 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX

RSC

Interim Figures

For the six months ended 30th September 1984

	6 months to 30th Sept 1984	6 months to 30th Sept 1983
Turnover	123,569	86,459
Operating Profit	14,331	9,026
Pretax Profit	14,103	9,358
Taxation	5,641	3,930
Profit after Taxation	8,462	5,428

At the Annual General Meeting in July it was stated that, as in the case of last year, a greater proportion of turnover and profits would fall into the second half of the financial year. This will be particularly marked in the case of the International Division. Operating margins of this division have shown a good increase over the comparable period of 1983/84 and the workload remains very satisfactory.

ISC Defense Systems has

continued to make good progress and is operating profitably. Trading at Marquardt has been well up to expectations.

There has been an anticipated increase in contract work-in-progress over the past six months and consequently a net interest charge of \$0.2 million has been incurred compared with a net credit of \$0.3 million, last year.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.0 cent net per share.

International Signal & Control Group PLC
England: 17a Curzon Street, London W1Y 7FE.
USA: 3700 Electronics Way, PO Box 3040, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17604/3040.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT and FORWARD RATES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months	6 months
New York November 16	November 16	1 month	3 months	6 months
Montréal 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Amsterdam 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Copenhagen 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Helsinki 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
London 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Milan 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Munich 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Paris 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Rome 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Tokyo 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Vienna 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Wellington 16/11/84	16/11/84	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465	0.8460-0.8465
Dollars 16/11/84	16/11/84	1.2060-1.2070	1.2060-1.2070	1.2060-1.2070

Trading was subdued on foreign exchanges as currency rates moved within narrow bands.

Both the pound and the dollar held relatively steady in the thin conditions.

The US currency, initially a shade easier, was able to stage a modest recovery against sterling finishing just 5 points in front at \$1.2615.

Meanwhile, the pounds trade weighted index ended at 76.5 compared with 76.6 at Wednesday's final calculation. In Deutschemark terms, sterling was a touch firmer at DM3.7430 (3.7420).

Dealers said there was little interest in the market. Latest US statistics including industrial production during last month and consumer credit figures for September failed to make any appreciable impact. Both continued to underline the slowdown taking place in the US economy.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

OTHER 2 RATES

Ireland	Australia	Finland
1.0490-1.0505	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0495-1.0510	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0500-1.0515	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0505-1.0520	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0510-1.0525	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0515-1.0530	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0520-1.0535	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0525-1.0540	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0530-1.0545	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0535-1.0550	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0540-1.0555	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0545-1.0560	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0550-1.0565	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0555-1.0570	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0560-1.0575	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0565-1.0580	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0570-1.0585	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0575-1.0590	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0580-1.0595	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0585-1.0600	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0590-1.0605	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0595-1.0610	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0600-1.0615	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0605-1.0620	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0610-1.0625	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0615-1.0630	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0620-1.0635	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0625-1.0640	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0630-1.0645	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0635-1.0650	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0640-1.0655	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0645-1.0660	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0650-1.0665	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0655-1.0670	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0660-1.0675	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0665-1.0680	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0670-1.0685	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0675-1.0690	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0680-1.0695	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0685-1.0700	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0690-1.0705	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0695-1.0710	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0700-1.0715	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0705-1.0720	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0710-1.0725	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0715-1.0730	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0720-1.0735	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0725-1.0740	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0730-1.0745	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0735-1.0750	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0740-1.0755	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0745-1.0760	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0750-1.0765	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0755-1.0770	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0760-1.0775	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0765-1.0780	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0770-1.0785	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0775-1.0790	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0780-1.0795	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0785-1.0800	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0790-1.0805	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0795-1.0810	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0800-1.0815	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0805-1.0820	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0810-1.0825	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0815-1.0830	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0820-1.0835	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0825-1.0840	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0830-1.0845	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0835-1.0850	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0840-1.0855	0.4955-0.4965	1.7900-1.7910
1.0845-1.0860	0.4955-0.4965</td	

Law Report November 16 1984 House of Lords

Long-term prisoners' challenge to lawfulness of new parole policy fails

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Findlay and Others

Before Lord Scarman, Lord Diplock, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Brightman

[Speeches sold November 15]

The Home Secretary's policy statement in the House of Commons on November 30, 1983 announcing a stricter policy of parole, and the implementation of that policy, was not unlawful

and the new policy was formulated without prior consultation with the Parole Board.

The Home Secretary was not under a statutory obligation to consult the board to have regard to factors such as deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of criminal justice.

The House of Lords sat held, dismissing consolidated appeals by four prisoners serving custodial sentences: Edward Findlay, Peter Hogen and Honeyman and Roy Matthews, from the Criminal Appeal Division of the Court of Appeal [Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Justice Griffiths, Lord Justice Browne-Wilkinson dissenting] on July 6, 1984 (*The Times* July 7, 1984) refusing the prisoners' appeals from a technical refusal by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court and Justice Forbes May 22, 1984 (*The Times* May 23, 1984) of their applications for judicial review of the change of policy.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the prisoners; Mr John Laws and Mr Robert Jay for the Home Secretary.

Lord SCARMAN said that the appeals arose in proceedings brought by four convicted prisoners who applied for judicial review of the decision of the Home Secretary to make major policy changes in the administration of the parole system for the release of prisoners on licence which was introduced by sections 59 to 64 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

The case for the appellants was that prior to the policy change each of them legitimately expected that he would be released on licence in the reasonably near future, that their expectation were maintained by the change of policy that the Home Secretary acted unlawfully and that in the circumstances the court should declare that the policy was unlawful in that it contravened the statute.

The application was heard by a Divisional Court of two judges, who disagreed, Lord Justice Parker being for dismissal of the proceedings but Mr Justice Forbes being in favour of granting relief. The prisoners chose to treat the result as a dismissal and went at once to the Court of Appeal, who dismissed the appeal by a majority.

On October 11, 1983 the Home Secretary announced at the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool that he was introducing far-reaching changes of policy in the exercise of his statutory discretion to release on licence persons serving sentences of imprisonment for

certain serious offences. The changes would affect those serving life sentences as well as those serving substantial fixed sentences.

This parole for certain classes of prisoners would not be granted save in exceptional circumstances or for compelling reasons until the minimum period specified had been served in prison.

He indicated that he would be making a parliamentary statement and that he would consult the Parole Board on the "precise way of achieving the new policy". But it was clear that he was not consulting the board in the formulation of the new policy.

In the announcement he emphasised that he was responding to the pressure of public opinion and that the public "do want to know with certainty what will actually happen to the most serious offenders, and they want what happens to reflect the gravity of the offences they have committed".

It was appropriate to "grow public awareness about the gap between the length of sentence passed and the length of the sentence actually served", that gap can endanger public confidence in our criminal justice system. People want to know with some certainty what an imprisonment for life, other than imprisonment for life, will mean and not less than one third of his sentence, whichever expired first.

Section 60(1) provided that the Home Secretary might, if recommended to do so by the Parole Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of imprisonment, other than imprisonment for life, for a period not less than one third of his sentence, whichever expired first.

The four prisoners were serving sentences for offences within the classes affected by the policy statement.

Findlay was serving a sentence of seven years for armed robbery imposed in 1981. Since November 1982 he had been in Long Lartin Prison which was used to accommodate prisoners of known good character and he expected to be released on licence in March 1984 until he heard of the new policy.

Matthews was serving a sentence of nine years for drug trafficking imposed in March 1982 and had been held in Long Lartin since June 1982. He would have become eligible for parole in April 1984. Both Findlay and Matthews had excellent prison records and clearly expected to be granted parole in 1984 or early 1985.

Hogen and Honeyman were serving life terms for murder in the course of an armed robbery and for murder by stabbing in the course of a burglary respectively. Both had been exemplary prisoners and had been moved to open prisons in December 1982 and January 1983 respectively but both were moved back to a closed prison on the day of the Home Secretary's announcement.

They were two of the four prisoners who were serving the Home Secretary said in Parliament that their "release in the relatively near future would not have accorded with my view of the gravity of their offences". Until the announcement of October 11, 1983 each expected that he might be granted parole in the not too distant future.

The shattering impact of the

policy statement upon the four prisoners could surprise no one. Their excellent prison records were greatly to their credit and the prior practice in the administration of parole understandably nourished their hopes of release.

The Home Secretary was, of course, aware of the impact upon some of the new policy. But he made it clear that in cases of violent crime the paramount consideration which he would have in mind would be the safety of the public, not the interests of the individual criminal.

Criminal Justice Act 1967 made

modifications to the existing legislation. Section 59(1) and (3)

created the Parole Board and cast upon it the duty to advise the Home Secretary with respect to the release on licence and recall of persons whose cases had been referred to the board by the Home Secretary, the conditions of such licences and the variations or cancellation of such conditions and any other matter so far as was connected with the release on licence or recall of persons to whom sections 60 or 61

applied. It was repeated in section 59(2) that the new policy was to be applied to all cases of violent crime.

Section 60(1) provided that the Home Secretary might, if recommended to do so by the Parole Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of imprisonment, other than imprisonment for life, for a period not less than one third of his sentence, whichever expired first.

Section 61(1) provided that the Home Secretary might, if recommended to do so by the Parole Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of life imprisonment or a person detained under section 59 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (young offenders convicted of three or more crimes), but should not do so in the case of a person sentenced to life imprisonment or to detention during her Majesty's pleasure or for life except after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and the trial judge if available.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Pursuant to that power the Home Secretary made the Local Review Committee Rules (SI 1967 No 1462) establishing such committees. The Rules recognized what was implicit in section 60 (1) of the 1967 Act, namely, that the Home Secretary

should be in possession of information concerning a prisoner's suitability for release as soon as he became eligible.

In case of life sentences however, there being no fixed period to be served before eligibility, the Home Secretary, in order to inform himself, appointed a joint committee of the Home Office and the Parole Board to consider at what stage the case of a prisoner serving a life sentence should be sent to a local committee under the 1967 Rolls for first review.

Since the introduction of that scheme there had been certain developments so that the perpetrators of all crimes attracting sentences of more than four years and crimes involving violence sex or drug trafficking had been regarded in one way or another as requiring more caution in the exercise of the power of release than others. That recognition of the gravity of certain offences and the seriousness of certain offenders was repeated in section 32 of the Criminal Justice Act 1982.

The Home Secretary had two unfettered discretions. It was entirely a matter for him whether to refer the case of a prisoner to the board for advice; and he had a discretion as to whether or not to accept the board's recommendation.

Section 61(1) provided that the Home Secretary might, if recommended to do so by the Parole Board, release on licence a person serving a sentence of life imprisonment or a person detained under section 59 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (young offenders convicted of three or more crimes), but should not do so in the case of a person sentenced to life imprisonment or to detention during her Majesty's pleasure or for life except after consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and the trial judge if available.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Pursuant to that power the Home Secretary made the Local Review Committee Rules (SI 1967 No 1462) establishing such committees. The Rules recognized what was implicit in section 60 (1) of the 1967 Act, namely, that the Home Secretary

should be in possession of information concerning a prisoner's suitability for release as soon as he became eligible.

The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture House Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), submitting that no reasonable Home Secretary could have reasonably omitted to consult the board.

However, the statute neither prohibited the Home Secretary from consulting the board before adopting a policy change in the exercise of his discretionary power to grant parole nor required him to do so.

In order to adopt the new policy without consulting the board the Home Secretary took into account the factors of deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of justice, which were plainly material matters. He could not therefore be said to have acted unreasonably in having regard to them. Accordingly the failure to consult the board was not unlawful.

The appellants argued that the new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。The new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。

There was nothing wrong in classifying offenders according to the character and gravity of their offences and the length of sentences imposed, provided always that the classification did not preclude consideration of other relevant factors such as prison record, personal or family circumstances and the element of risk or its treatment of offenders.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Such a requirement into the statute. The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture House Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), submitting that no reasonable Home Secretary could have reasonably omitted to consult the board.

However, the statute neither prohibited the Home Secretary from consulting the board before adopting a policy change in the exercise of his discretionary power to grant parole nor required him to do so.

In order to adopt the new policy without consulting the board the Home Secretary took into account the factors of deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of justice, which were plainly material matters. He could not therefore be said to have acted unreasonably in having regard to them. Accordingly the failure to consult the board was not unlawful.

The appellants argued that the new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。The new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。

There was nothing wrong in classifying offenders according to the character and gravity of their offences and the length of sentences imposed, provided always that the classification did not preclude consideration of other relevant factors such as prison record, personal or family circumstances and the element of risk or its treatment of offenders.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Such a requirement into the statute. The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture House Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), submitting that no reasonable Home Secretary could have reasonably omitted to consult the board.

However, the statute neither prohibited the Home Secretary from consulting the board before adopting a policy change in the exercise of his discretionary power to grant parole nor required him to do so.

In order to adopt the new policy without consulting the board the Home Secretary took into account the factors of deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of justice, which were plainly material matters. He could not therefore be said to have acted unreasonably in having regard to them. Accordingly the failure to consult the board was not unlawful.

The appellants argued that the new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。The new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。

There was nothing wrong in classifying offenders according to the character and gravity of their offences and the length of sentences imposed, provided always that the classification did not preclude consideration of other relevant factors such as prison record, personal or family circumstances and the element of risk or its treatment of offenders.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Such a requirement into the statute. The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture House Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([1948] 1 KB 223), submitting that no reasonable Home Secretary could have reasonably omitted to consult the board.

However, the statute neither prohibited the Home Secretary from consulting the board before adopting a policy change in the exercise of his discretionary power to grant parole nor required him to do so.

In order to adopt the new policy without consulting the board the Home Secretary took into account the factors of deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the administration of justice, which were plainly material matters. He could not therefore be said to have acted unreasonably in having regard to them. Accordingly the failure to consult the board was not unlawful.

The appellants argued that the new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。The new policy was discriminatory in that it was directed at certain groups of offenders, namely, those犯有暴力、性或毒品罪行的罪犯，而对其他罪犯没有同样的考虑。

There was nothing wrong in classifying offenders according to the character and gravity of their offences and the length of sentences imposed, provided always that the classification did not preclude consideration of other relevant factors such as prison record, personal or family circumstances and the element of risk or its treatment of offenders.

Lord Justice Parker had said, it could be seen that neither in the case of determinate sentences nor in the case of life sentences had the Home Secretary any power to release unless he was recommended to do so by the board, that in the case of life sentences an additional precondition to the exercise of the power was consultation with the Lord Chief Justice and, if available, the trial judge; that subject to a minimum period of 12 months all determinate sentence prisoners became eligible for release after serving a minimum of one third of their sentence; and that life sentence prisoners were not subject to any minimum period.

The emphasis was upon the need for the board to include persons with the skills and experience required to assess the risk of early release. But the Home Secretary had clearly considered other aspects of early release of prisoners. Deterrence, retribution and public confidence in the system were factors of importance.

The board through its judicial and other members could offer advice on those aspects but could not be as close or as sensitive to public opinion as a minister responsible to Parliament and the electorate.

He had to judge the public acceptability of early release and to determine the policies needed to maintain public confidence in the system of criminal justice. This was why Parliament set necessary the duty of the parole system.

Such a requirement into the statute. The appellants also invoked the principle in *Associated Provincial Picture House Ltd v Wednesbury Corporation* ([19

Penmanship

An increasing number of professional people find themselves writing less and less. Journalists are a case in point, and more than once I have found myself, or witnessed a colleague, struggling to write comprehensively.

We are used to scribbling our idiosyncratic shorthand, but we type all our stories (the only part of this article which will have been penned by hand will be the sub-editor's corrections), and almost all our letters.

The only regular writing we do is the signing of cheques and forms, scribbled entries in our diaries, and occasional postcards from holidays abroad.

Our signatures, in many cases, disintegrate into barely intelligible scrawls, and we become virtually incapable of employing that most basic tool of our trade, the pen. A fountain-pen is something that many who call themselves writers will not have picked up for many years.

The fact that Gore Vidal, the American novelist, writes all his work by hand – several thousands words a day – is staggering to those of us who have become more or less dependent on the typewriter. But Mr Vidal is not unique.

A large number of best-selling authors write by hand – Jeffrey Archer, Jackie Collins and Jack Higgins – but each relies on a secretary who translates handwritten manuscript into type. I would guess that those who have not yet made the best-seller list and cannot afford to employ typists, would be more likely to type than to write by hand.

There are a few professional people who are more or less obliged to write by hand. Architects are an obvious example, as their plans are usually on huge sheets of paper that would never fit into a typewriter.

Barristers and doctors write too, although more for reasons of tradition than practicality. A doctor's hands, so adept with their patients, seem ill-equipped to hold pens – as many a confused chemist will testify. Indeed, it has been argued with good reason that if more doctors typed their prescriptions, the health of the nation might improve dramatically.

A barrister's brief, always elegantly bound in pink ribbon, is either hand written, or typed by a secretary. British barristers

Love letters or a laundry list – penmanship is important for the pleasure in giving and receiving a small work of art.



This lion, formed from Tawji script, is probably 19th century Persian and reads as a blessing.

From Islamic calligraphy (Thames and Hudson).

are far too grand to learn to type themselves.

Of course there are other professionals who write by hand. But it would be hard to deny that they are a diminishing number, and commercial and economic imperatives make typing in most cases a far more practical method, both for speed and readability.

In the world of business there cannot be many company executives who write by hand. They dictate their letters to secretaries, who type them, possibly with the aid of a word processor. If the matter is urgent, they use the telephone.

Handwriting plays a far less important part in our social life, too, except for the small minority who do not have telephones. How often do you get handwritten letters through your letter-box? The chances are that even if the envelope is hand-written, its contents will be in the form of a printed card.

A letter in the correspondents' own hand is not only a rarity; it is something to be cherished, because not only does it reflect the fact that someone has taken a certain amount of trouble – it also reveals much of the writer's character.

That expression of individuality, which you don't have to be a graphologist to appreciate, is most important for children. The pen or pencil is one of the basic tools of learning, and a

child who can write well is at a great advantage.

It is one thing to allow a skill like hand-writing to atrophy in middle-age; it would be unforgivable if it were neglected at an early age.

Fortunately, handwriting, unlike the study of classics, is not about to disappear from the school curriculum. Although teachers may be rather kinder these days, fewer raps over the knuckles, less rigid insistence that even the naturally left-handed should be obliged to write right-handed – they still believe that writing is an essential part of a child's education.

But do they teach it sufficiently thoroughly? Mrs Rosemary Sasso, who has been in the forefront of a recent revival of interest in the teaching of handwriting, believes not.

Mrs Sasso, whose *Practical Guide to Children's Handwriting* (Thames and Hudson £4.95) was published last year, stresses the vital importance of teaching children good habits early on.

Her book tackles the mechanics of handwriting in an impressively detailed way. It also makes some very simple points such as the importance of posture, a good writing surface, light, the position of the paper and above all, grip.

Any parent who watches his or her offspring struggling away trying to write a thank-you letter to Auntie crouched in some crumpled position, head almost horizontal, pen gripped with knuckle-whitening force, will appreciate the importance of these things.

Mrs Sasso, while emphasizing the need for this basic training, also insists on respecting the child's right to develop its own style. Her book is pure common sense, and should be essential reading for every primary school teacher.

Even in these days of word-processors and video display units, there will be times when we find ourselves marooned, away from all that soothing technology, and obliged to communicate by putting pen to paper. If some of us may be found wanting in these circumstances, we can at least do our best to ensure that our children suffer no such handicap.

Rupert Morris

Donald Jackson, scribe to the Crown Office at the House of Lords, "writes" a word picture



Calligraphy may be just what the doctor ordered

Writing, according to the late Alfred Fairbank, one of Britain's most celebrated exponents of penmanship, is "a dance of the pen".

His love of the art shines through his many published observations: "To write with grace is friendly and generous and adds a little to the virtues of civilization."

A little pretentious, some might say, but others would agree wholeheartedly that anything which brings a degree of charm and style to life has to be applauded.

Fairbank, who died in 1982, produced his famous *Handwriting Manual* in 1932 and is widely credited with playing a leading role in popularising italic handwriting in schools in the 1950s. Tens of thousands of copies of his book have been sold and he is reckoned to have trained at least 1,000 teachers the skill of handwriting.

Today, many regard penmanship as the Cinderella of the craft world; it is fostered by a few enthusiasts and societies run chiefly by volunteers and it is given scant attention in schools. It is no longer regarded as of particular relevance in a society increasingly being treated to high technology advances by the video recorder and personal computer manufacturers.

The same goes for the art of lettering. Following the publication last year of a report by the Craft Study Centre in Bath on the practice, development and teaching of lettering in Britain, this centre, the Society of Scribes and Illuminators (SSI) concluded that for economic and educational reasons design skills in all spheres of lettering were fast disappearing and lettering was often uninterestingly handled.

"What is being done to remedy the situation?" Very little. The report argues that fewer people are applying for a diminishing number of apprenticeships, and that in the majority of our art schools lettering is being taught patchily and with little depth.

"Even if better opportunities existed for a training in lettering, it is not clear where the teachers come from, for little training has been available for close on 20 years."

But the ability to write legibly, neatly and with a flourish that reveals a love of form and shape is not a dying art. While the numbers remain

small, more and more people are learning formally how to write properly, and according to Sue Cavendish secretary of the SSI, even realising how therapeutic it can be.

"We have, for example, a lot of housewives showing interest in handwriting," she says, "and adds a little to the virtues of civilisation."

The society's membership has grown considerably in recent years – from about 500 in 1977 to 1,800 today, and the vast majority are hobbyists learning the calligrapher's art to be able to produce anything from a wedding invitation to, in the case of the substantial number of doctors who are members, a readable prescription.

And there is nothing nicer, says Ms Cavendish, than receiving a letter written in a fine hand using a proper fountain pen.

The world of discerning handwriters

There is also nothing difficult or expensive in acquiring the basic tools of the trade. Writing with a quill on vellum is for the expert calligrapher – a fountain pen with a broad nib and good quality paper is all that is needed for the amateur.

And the group that could be of most use to the beginner is the Society for Italic Handwriting. For an annual subscription of £6 (£3 for children and full-time students) the newcomer to the art can enter the world of the discerning handwriter.

The society says: "Italic handwriting is a simple, modern and elegant way to write. It is simple enough to be taught to young children, and modern enough for the needs of today. At the same time, its elegant letter forms offer the pleasures of craftsmanship to the discriminating writer."

Dr Arthur Osley, editor of the society's journal, bristles at any suggestion that italic handwriting is "beautiful script". It is, he says, and extraordinarily versatile way of writing. "Whether you want to write post or just draw up a laundry list."

The society has a diverse and

Turn to page 28

This is the ultimate gift for his nibs

When the writing paper got thinner and the lavatory paper thicker you could tell that Nancy Mitford's Radlett family were having a hard time. Had she been writing *Love in a Cold Climate* today she might have added that when the fountain pens got fatter things were looking up again. Pens to curl your fingers round are the symbol of the 1980s.

The name to conjure with is still Mont Blanc, who make the flattest, blackest fountain pen of all. James Bond had one in *Octopussy*, only it squirted acid instead of ink. Design directors vied one to make sure they are not confused with accountants, who go for slimline gold. Anyone who cares about prestige wears his Mont Blanc and his Church's shoes. It doesn't much matter what happens in between.

Usually, such pens are bought for gifts for men. According to Liberty's, a woman finds £125 for an eminently losable accessory difficult to justify for herself, and in any case, in a small hand it feels like writing with a Corona. For women there is a version which is pleasantly plump rather than fat, and much easier to hold when you sign the bill for £86.

The feminine touch has been vital factor in the recovery of one of the most famous names in pens – Waterman. Since the invention by Lewis Edson Waterman of the first leakproof pen in 1884, the company soared to success and might never have come down to earth had it not been for bigger and better aircraft. When pressurized cabins were introduced – the unthinkable happened – pens that had flown with Lindberg and Johnson blotted their copybook and leaked.

Such fountain pens floundered and Baron Biichi, maker of the Bic ball point, bought Waterman US in 1954. The European end struggled on in France and was sinking with £500,000 losses when Francine Gomez became its third woman president in 1969. This year, when Waterman celebrated its centenary it had become the largest pen company in Europe with sales worth more than 200 million French francs in 100 countries.

It makes five million fountain pens a year, to three million ball points, a trend which is repeated by other pen manufacturers. Even in schools fountain pens are reappearing now that teachers have realised that real joined-up writing produced by fountain pens is a more useful asset than the scribble which results from ball points.

Ink cartridges have made pen filling less messy, too, although pupils still manage to devise ways of dousing themselves as indecently as possible.



Pen advertising in 1896.

To meet the new, young market, manufacturers are producing fun and fashion pens for under £2. Parker, who still make a prestige pen in solid 18ct gold at £2,000, have moved mainly into the middle price range and claim 55 per cent of the total market for all writing instruments, estimate for 1984 at £151.4m. Half their business is in bubble packs.

This shift in emphasis has tended to divide the market – Parker in the chain stores versus The Rest in the specialist shops. Pencraft, which has four shops in London, concentrates on Mont Blanc, Waterman, Sheaffer and Cross and also provides repair service for most makes of pen if the parts are still available. Pens, like cookers, have about a ten year built-in obsolescence.

At the moment, say Pencraft,

the fashion is for black or tortoiseshell with "old fashioned" gold nibs, but there are more adventurous effects, too, for the less conservative – a cobalt blue Waterman at £86 or bands of green grey and black lacquer, like stratified rock, for £55, gift packed with writing paper and envelopes – one of Shaeffer's special promotions at the moment. It's tough in the middle of the pen men.

Paper, too, has been undergoing a transformation. The industry started in China in about 105 AD and took 1,000 years to reach Europe and another 500 to cross the Atlantic. But now the only manufacturers concentrating exclusively on paper made from 100 per cent cotton fibres (the length of fibre gives finer quality) is Crane and Co of Massachusetts, whose ranges are stocked by Alastair Elliott Lockhart of Walton Stationery Company, 97 Walton Street, London SW3.

Crane had begun its business in 1801 and in 1842 started to make paper for American bank notes. It was a customer writing to order more of that bond paper, who coined the term "bond" which is now used throughout the paper industry.

Fine paper is expensive and cotton fibre costs more than the usual mixture of cotton linters and bleached wood pulp, but Cranes have a neat way of proving their worth by breaking down the actual costs of writing a professional letter.

The total for each letter, they estimate, is \$4.17 and of this the dictator's time costs 22.8 per cent, secretarial time 28.5 per cent, nonproductive labour 7.7 per cent, fixed charges 25.7 per cent, mailing cost 6.7 per cent, filing cost 5 per cent, materials 3.6 per cent. On this basis materials, which include carbon paper, copy machine paper, typewriter ribbon and writing paper, cost 15 cents. Whatever the percentages, the actual cost of Crane paper is from £15.33 to £73 per 100 sheets, compared with one of the best known British business writing papers, Conqueror at £9.43 per 500 sheets and Connoisseur, new this year, £14.02 per 500. Both these are made at Stowford Mill, near Dartmoor, by Wiggins Teape, papermakers for nearly 200 years and Britain's largest paper exporter.

Originally specialists in hand made papers, the company now produces one of the largest ranges of plain and coloured, smooth and textured, tracing and coated papers for commercial use, all available at Paperpoint, 130 Long Acre, London WC2. If you can print on it, they make it – even a waterproof plastic "paper" to resist downpours and no doubt tea-stains on building sites, and a goatskin parchment used for legal certificates, guaranteed to last for 500 years, presumably while the lawyers draw them up.

The choice of inks has widened, too – Mont Blanc and Waterman produce several colours in addition to blue and black at about £1.60 for a 2oz bottle and Walton Stationery has its own range at £2.99 which includes a rich burgundy and dark green, snappily wrapped, with their rosewood wax seals at £10 each with up to three initials, by Neiman Marcus in Dallas.

Surprisingly America is just as conventional as Britain in its formal letter etiquette and makes nanny-ish remarks about only white (they also allow ecru) for formal correspondence.

But without coloured paper by the pound and without Hunkydory and Camden Graphics and Two-Can and Millimetre producing well designed individual cards to replace the outmoded boxed notelets, young letter writers might not exist at all.

There is still room for development. Alastair Elliott Lockhart would like to see the raised effect of thermoplastic printing used for fun letterheads and invitations rather than a poor imitation of hand engraving.

Like inexpensive wine, he says, there is nothing wrong with it until you know what the best is like.

In fact, paper terminology has a lot in common with wine. Connoisseurs look for crispness, strength, good colour and exact specifications as a protection against fraud and forgery – a sort of appellation contrôlée to make quite sure that your word is as good as your bond.

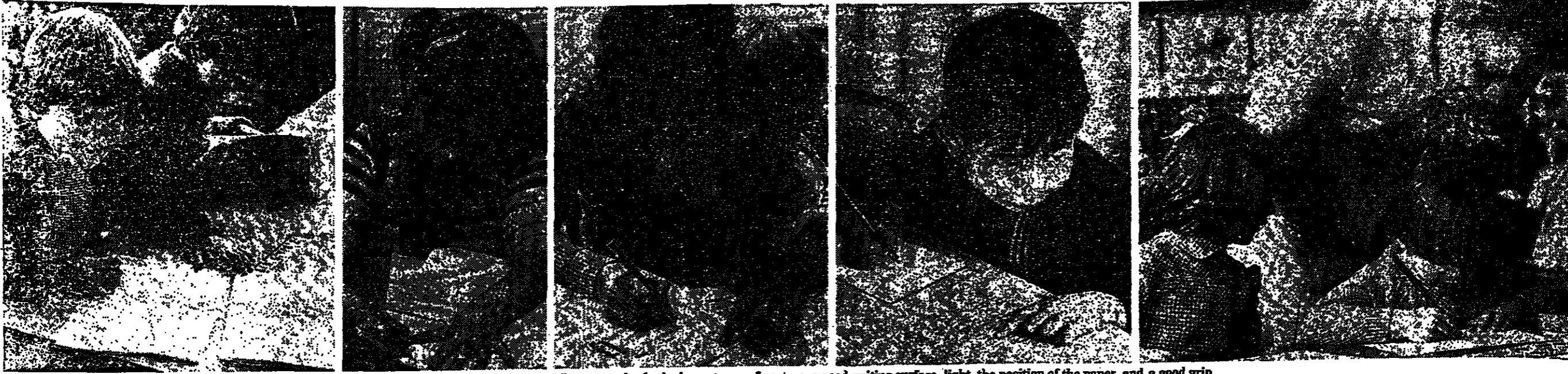
The Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Rt. Rev. John Bickersteth (seated), is taking calligraphy lessons from Bristol Polytechnic lecturer Malcolm Drake in an evening class specially organised at the Bishop's Palace in Bristol.

Beryl Downing

WATERMAN

PARIS





First steps in the art of writing: children are shown the importance of posture, a good writing surface, light, the position of the paper, and a good grip

Writing is just what the doctor ordered

Continued from page 27

international membership, including school teachers, graphic artists, academic institutions, companies, rank amateurs and people in prison. There are no membership qualifications.

"People find it can be an enrichment to write properly. It is simple, you don't need any intellectual skills or expensive equipment and people with no particular pretensions can get great pleasure from it. Children living in depressed areas, for example, seem to do well at italic handwriting."

Why there has been a resurgence in this country in interest in penmanship is difficult to establish. Ms Cavendish believes that part of the answer is a backlash against the increasingly impersonal age of the video screen, pushbutton technology and instant print-outs that leave little room for individual imagination.

Dr Osley says: "There are some indications of renewed interest, but I think that they are not obviously explicable."

"It could be the result of a return to more formal methods of teaching and a greater importance placed upon reading and writing and the ability to be able to count up to ten".

But the apparent revival has been sufficient to arouse the pen company Osmiridio into sponsoring the society's scheme to expand the number of local workshops it organizes around the country. The aim is to treble the number of Osmiridio approved lecturers from the present figure of 12.

Sir Patrick Nairne, the society's chairman, says the aims of the society would be more vigorously fostered in a way that would widen the recognition of the value of the italic hand. And the society has been assured by Osmiridio that the commercial aspects of the scheme would be "strictly subordinate".

Anything that furthers the art will be welcomed by Dr Osley, who has in the past railed against what he believes is ill-disciplined teaching in schools. In his obituary of Alfie Fairbank, he attacked "lunatic fads" in schools including "creative writing" in which handwriting was picked up as a by-product.

He wrote: "In the last few years, when the throw-away ball-point was already becoming obsolescent and an affront to conservation, we have seen signs of reaction against pedagogic anarchy, so that there is some prospect that interest in handwriting in schools may revive. When that happens, Fairbank will come into his own again."

Edward Townsend

The Society of Scribes and Illuminators, The Secretary, c/o The British Crafts Centre, 43, Earls Court, London WC2H 9LD. The Society for Italic Handwriting, Gay Pierpoint, Secretary, 4 Kyneton Court, Minnis Hall Road, Potters Bar, EN6 3DA.

Shaeffers have arranged a demonstration of Calligraphy by Fiona Greenwood on November 20 and 21 from 11-3 at W. H. Smith, Holborn Circus.

The graphologist may have your job in his hands

Graphology, the technique of assessing character by handwriting, is one of those pursuits, half science and half art, that people are inclined to take seriously despite their better judgment.

It is a bit like astrology that way: there are degrees of obsession and of belief or disbelief on a wide scale; but even the most sceptical are likely to find themselves paying attention when the subject comes up. Just as everyone, like it or not, has a star sign, so near-universal literacy means that we all use handwriting and find it impossible to deny altogether the proposition that our handwriting might reveal some hitherto undiscovered aspect of our inner selves.

For some, graphology is a hobby; but again on the analogy of the astrologer, there are those who have studied the subject in great depth and manage to practise it for a living. There is even an Institute of Graphology whose graduates are thought by some captains of industry at least to be much better equipped for scrutinizing job applications and the like.

Many of the more obvious principles of graphology seem to stem from a kind of intuitive common-sense approach or an eye for analogy. It is somehow persuasive that

as there are fashionable astrologers there are fashionable handwriting experts: one stylish young lady was described in a recent newspaper interview as "graphologist to the stars".

The use of graphology in industry is spreading, particularly for top managerial positions. A minimum of 20 lines of handwriting on plain paper is required, and the evidence with a magnifying glass. Not all candidates are warned that their handwriting will be so used, and even personnel managers who are satisfied with graphology admit that the results should be treated with caution.

One management consultant who uses graphology says that if his analysis shows anything as serious as criminal tendencies or sexual problems he will telephone his opinion to the company concerned rather than put it in writing.

Many of the more obvious principles of graphology seem to stem from a kind of intuitive common-sense approach or an eye for analogy. It is somehow persuasive that

handwriting were correctly identified as the only Irish ones: one who was suspected of Irishness was not, however, and, worst of all, the handwriting of *The Times* correspondent who set the test was judged "peculiar".

The "Irishness" of handwriting is thought to descend from the Gaelic and from the "uncial" and "half-uncial" rounded letter forms used in early Latin and Greek manuscripts. Mr Davis's interest in graphology also extends to the identification of authentication of famous authors: among his triumphs are two letters from D. H. Lawrence.

Some of the expressions used by graphologists are both evocative and amusing: there are "felon's claws", "cat's paws" and even an "embroiderer's oval". *The Times* Diary went through a phase of analysing signatures: Mrs Thatcher "would make a good orchestra conductor" and Michael Foot did "everything according to preconceived plans".

In the 1950s, teachers decided to abolish instruction in handwriting as such at most schools; many are now

convinced that was a mistake. The most intelligent pupils can find themselves crippled by poor handwriting, or by finding handwriting more difficult than it has to be because there has been no instruction in fundamentals of posture, lighting or even how to grip a pencil or pen.

Some children are miserably aware that their handwriting betrays their sense of failure not only to teachers but future employers". *The Times* noted recently.

Significantly, the University of Reading has scheduled a conference on the teaching of handwriting this month. Top of the agenda is a handwriting policy for school - its implications for the primary school". Another speaker will challenge the conference with the proposition that "from today handwriting is dead".

Handwriting experts have long been in demand in courts of law, although their testimony has by no means gone unquestioned, nor survived all challenges. The controversy is at least 60 years old, as the ruminations of a *A Legal Correspondent* in *The Times* in February 1972 make clear.

"There is no kind of expert evidence which is more vital in some trials than that of handwriting", he wrote, "and there is no kind of expert evidence which is more likely to arouse anxieties in the minds of a jury ...

"In murder trials it is, of course, the practice of counsel to pour contempt upon it, and, unfortunately, there are ample precedents of the failure and mistakes of handwriting experts to justify an advocate's criticisms."

Several cautionary tales followed, with a final recommendation that an abortive French attempt to form an association of handwriting experts be revived on the grounds that "it is not in the interests of justice that the evidence of those who are really skilled in handwriting should be discredited by their inability to produce proof of training and experience".

Tony Samstag

Word processors have set us free says the scribe

Calligraphy is a tactile pleasure. People who are committed to this graphic pleasure talk with loving voices as though describing a caress. The touch of pen, quill, or brush on paper, vellum or parchment is just that. The enthusiasm in eyes and voices is inspiring and one can well understand why, once seduced, calligraphy becomes a passionate interest.

Donald Jackson is a person at whose feet others sit on both sides of the Atlantic. The Australians too have caught the infection and one woman, when last he was in Perth, telephoned to say it wasn't far from Tokio so she would come to a workshop. She did.

He is man without pretensions but his own dedication, talent and enthusiasm hit the visual consciousness at just the right moment in the 1970s when we were reacting against machine-made marvels.

With a scholarship to art college at 13 he graduated from the Boston School of Art and went on to postgraduate work at the Central and Goldsmiths' Colleges in London. Since 1964 he has been Scribe to Her Majesty's Crown Office at the House of Lords.

There are still scrolls for city charters, for the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, for letters patent for peerages under the Great Seal to be prepared.

After the usual hungry students' patch he has been teaching calligraphy at Camberwell School of Art, but in 1973 he borrowed the money for an excursion fare to the US and set off with a bundle of work under his arm to try his luck. The success was astonishing for he not only sold everything but discovered that the Americans were some decades behind what we were achieving in calligraphy here. People now come to his American workshops at the California State University among other venues.

"The Americans' very naivety means they have a new approach. Most stimulating. No class consciousness, for they don't relate calligraphy with work by monks for medieval princes of state or church. Nor even of dear old ladies in



Wishing you a happy Christmas: Lily Lee says it with letters

even a PhD in Gothic architecture.

"It's specially liberating to women. A sense of personal achievement, a freedom of expression..."

He uses quills, some Victorian, and sometimes reed pens, "they last for ever because so little of them wears out on a surface", he says. "No need to catch a swan or goose but perhaps an idea to make friends with the Warden at Slimebridge Wildfowl Trust? He also mixes his own inks and has some centuries old Chinese ink blocks still in their original wrapping.

"Word processors have set us free. Commercial information can be given to machines and we can enjoy the act of writing again. It's some 150 years ago that western man learned to

write en masse and lost writing as an art. Calligraphy is an art and is to ordinary writing what walking is to flying. Other arts, like pottery, have got up from the kitchen table into museums. Calligraphy is doing the same thing but even the Craft Centre doesn't have examples up on its walls as though they were pictures.

"The act of putting quill to paper is a commitment. No mistakes are possible so one must concentrate. Quite hard work. Some of my students are shy in case the act reveals some private facet of their own souls. But why not be proud to be oneself?"

Donald Jackson feels this is a universal language and hopes, before too long, to have a paperback edition of his book (now out of print) "The Story of Writing".

He travelled - Europe, Australia, where she lived for three years, Hong Kong, Nepal, Afghanistan where she literally earned her bread by calligraphy. But she had no formal art

training and felt, with her ancestral origins, something was sadly missing.

Speaking Cantonese but unable to write it she turned to western calligraphy and took a course in calligraphy and bookbinding at the Digby Stuart College at Roehampton and has recently become a member of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators.

Her parents really did have a Chinese Laundry in California and hoped their daughter would do something honourably safe like becoming a nurse. It took a lot of courage for this American-born daughter to decide not to follow their wishes.

She travelled - Europe, Australia, where she lived for three years, Hong Kong, Nepal, Afghanistan where she literally earned her bread by calligraphy. But she had no formal art

training and felt, with her

ancestral origins, something was sadly missing.

Speaking Cantonese but unable to write it she turned to western calligraphy and took a course in calligraphy and bookbinding at the Digby Stuart College at Roehampton and has recently become a member of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators.

Things - meaning daily bread - don't come easily to the freelance artist. Acts of faith are what carry them through and she has just made the courageous jump into her own studio at Unit 357 Clerkenwell Close, London EC1 (01-608 0116). Her commissions are less impressive than Donald Jackson's but his help, encouragement and inspiration and her own talents will see her through.

She works with steel pens and brushes. Designs can be for stencilled Christmas cards (stencil screened), poems, graphics for shops and general commercial work like letterheads.

She too feels that the materials should suit the job, but unlike Donald Jackson, who has to turn work down, she has her reputation to make in menus, book jackets, record sleeves.

Diana Pollock

PEN SENSE LTD.

5 KING STREET

NOTTINGHAM NG1 2BH

Telephone: Nottingham 472724

Specialist retailers of quality writing instruments with free engraving on most pens.

On the spot repairs for pens of all ages.

Authorised stockists of:

PARKER CROSS MOUNT BLANC PAPERMATE ROTRING, ETC

LAMY SCHAEFFER

Crane's

SINCE 1801

Excellent writing papers made only from 100% pure cotton fibres and a superb range of our own writing inks especially for fountain pens at

The Walton Street Stationery Company

97 Walton Street, London SW1

Telephone 01-589 0777

LARGE SELECTION OF FOUNTAIN PENS AVAILABLE

Paul Smith

43 Floral Street, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9DJ.

Telephone 01-379 7133

THE PEN SHOP

27 BURLINGTON ARCADE, LONDON

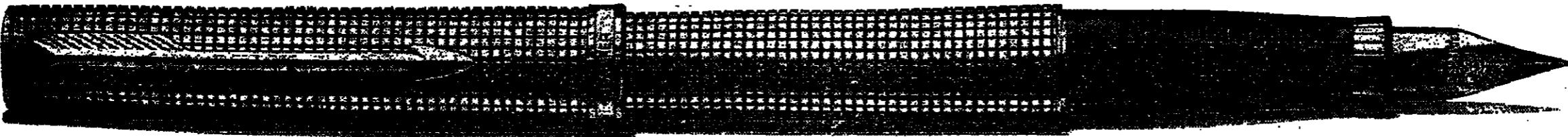
Est 1958 Tel: 01-493 9021

Specialists in fine writing instruments for the discerning buyer.

Richard and Sally Greenhalgh

50: مكتبة المدارس

Richard



What if the owner of this Parker had chain mail pockets, crashed his car every day, climbed a 7,000ft mountain and descended in a high speed elevator, whilst writing the sequel to War and Peace?

One thing is certain: his pen would work perfectly.

For while we adhere strictly to the philosophy that our pens should do nothing but write beautifully, we haven't lost sight of the fact that to do this they must survive the obstacle course of day to day life.

Once we've made a pen, our scientists spend a considerable amount of time desperately trying to break it.

They fling it violently across the room, as would happen when a car screeches to a halt.

The clip is pocketed and unpocketed 10,000 times to make sure it doesn't lose its grip.

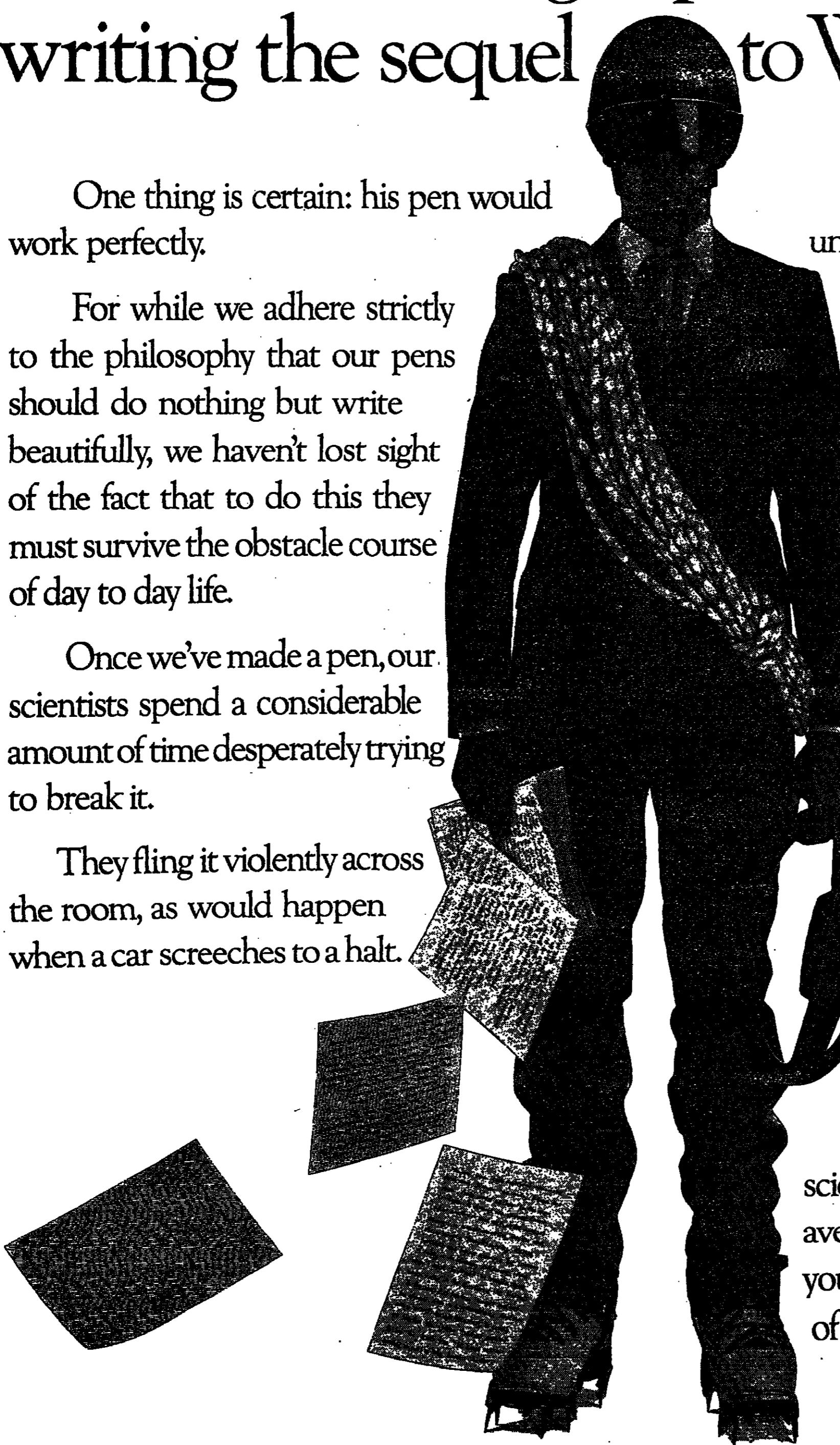
Then the pen is rattled round for hours in a bag of nuts and bolts; after all it's got to withstand the contents of your handbag or brief-case.

It's zoomed to 7,000ft to check it doesn't leak. Plunged from simulated winter to frazzling summer; written with for miles and when no one can think of anything more to throw at it, examined through microscopes for the tiniest of cracks or flaws.

Provided it still writes perfectly, the pen is yours for a modest sum.

When you consider that our scientists regard the life-style of the average stunt man a tame existence, your Parker should give you a lifetime of faithful service.

*Make your mark
with a Parker*



FOOTBALL: EIGHT GOALS ARE NOT ENOUGH FOR DISAPPOINTED PLAYERS

Iron fist and velvet glove hold the key to England's fortunes

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

As England look through their binoculars towards Mexico and the summer of 1986, there is but one speck of doubt on the lens. Bobby Robson's side will qualify for the next World Cup finals, and with appreciable ease, only if both Ray Wilkins and Bryan Robson remain free of injury.

The pair, now indisputably of world class, are irreplaceable. In their absence England would be without their velvet glove and iron fist, their cloak and their dagger, and only then would Northern Ireland, their next opponents in February, and particularly Romania, genuinely threaten the leaders of group three.

Bryan Robson, the captain, has no peer in this country as a predator behind the front two. His namesake, Stewart of Arsenal, has similar power and courage but does not, as yet, score as profitably for his club. Bryan, with another three goals against Turkey on Wednesday, has claimed five in the last three internationals.

Wilkins a former captain, has no rival as the central promoter

behind him. Hoddle is not as commanding and Hazard, another candidate from Tottenham Hotspur, is not yet experienced enough to put such an influential role. Wilkins was responsible for creating six of England's eight goals in Istanbul's Inonu Stadium.

In overwhelming Finland and inflicting on Turkey their heaviest defeat in their national stadium, England proved that they are more than ruthless enough to dismiss the weakest of European countries. The efficiency of those two victories suggests that they are emerging as a side capable of challenging the strongest nations around the globe.

Once it was the left side that seemed empty without Rix, Cowans or Devonshire, but Barnes, who is more than a winger, fills that gap with increasing authority and confidence.

With first Lee and now probably Williams drifting out of contention, the problem is now on the right. Hoddle remains an attractive solution.

As the back four and Shilton have not been seriously disturbed for the last three hours of

international play, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the surgeon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Finland	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Romania	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Turkey	2	0	0	2	1	10	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Finland	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Romania	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Turkey	2	0	0	2	1	10	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iceland	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Wales	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iceland	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Wales	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iceland	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Wales	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iceland	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Wales	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Spain	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iceland	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Wales	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

international plans, there would be little point in disrupting their growing understanding. That idea would include retaining Anderson more lively in attack than the right back he replaced, Duxbury, and at least as dependable in defence.

Hately's knee operation

yesterday was described as a "perfect success" by the sur-

geon, and assuming Hately has fully recovered in time he will return for the Irish game, replacing the aging and honest Withe, renewing his partnership with Woodcock. The frailty of Francis continues to weaken his claims, but there can be few more fearsome sights for tiring defenders than to see him preparing to come on for the closing stages.

• The former West German manager, Jupp Derwall, has refused to confirm a report that he has resigned as the adviser to the Turkish national team

Group three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----

BOXING

Jones gets third world chance with \$1m contest against Curry

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Colin Jones gets his third chance to realize his dream of lifting the world welterweight title when he takes on Don Curry of United States, the champion at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on Saturday, January 19.

It will be the first title bout held in Britain under the rules of the World Boxing Association and as such will be over 15 rounds.

Frank Warren, who is promoting the show jointly with Bob Arum of Top Rank Inc, does not expect any record crowds. British boxing board, which has championship distances are 12 rounds in line with the World Boxing Council. "After all, the board are also members of the WBA and if you are a member of a club you have to stick by its rules", Warren said yesterday.

The distance will suit the tough Welshman from Gorseinon down to the ground, where he hopes to send Curry. "It will be a tough fight", Jones said. "Curry comes to fight and I don't back off. It could be a case of who wins in the first big punch. But if it goes 15 rounds, that suits me fine too."

By the time January comes round, Jones will have geared himself up by running 400 miles up down the hills between Talybont and Pen-y-fan in Wales. After Christmas, Jones will leave South Wales and move possibly to Oswestry to finish his training. "There are a lot of good sparring partners close by", Eddie Thomas, Jones's manager, said.

It is just as well that the champion, who is tipped to win three titles at three different weights, and to succeed Marvin Hagler as middleweight champion, does not mind travelling. For apart from giving Jones home advantage it should prove a most profitable night for the Welshman, who is already

SQUASH RACKETS

Inter-City to rescue

By Colin McQuillan

Inter-City, the British Rail high-speed passenger network, have launched a £90,000 sponsorship package for domestic squash which simultaneously rewards the national championships to competitive grassroots and links them to the grassroots of the game.

Next month's British closed championships, unsponsored and offering minimum prize money, were in danger of becoming a second-rate event, with most top home players opting for bigger prizes in international matches overseas. Inter-City have raised the prize fund immediately to £13,000, and according to Cyril Bleasdale, a director of Inter-City,

will aim for a greater increase in 1985.

The £500m rail operation have also taken over the range of SRA age-group national championships, renowned as the world's biggest single squash tournament because it annually attracts more than 30,000 entries. A new university challenge is also to be organized.

"We want to put the 1985 Inter-City championships on the map as an all-transplant could bring the best of all the other Inter-City British challenge tournaments to play alongside the country's best at the same venue", Mr Bleasdale said yesterday.

Morgan puts the boot into celebrity collection



No feet of Clay: Morgan with his prize capture, Muhammad Ali's boots

Fishing for memorabilia with tempting bait of fresh salmon

Morgan the Chemist has a habit of turning up in the unlikeliest places, and quite often within shoulder-rubbing distance of the famous.

Because of his sporting connections Guyne Morgan has been in touch with the greatest names in sport in order to satisfy his passion - collecting sporting memorabilia for the Carnarvon Athletic Club, of which he has been president for 23 years. There are now 120 jerseys and a wall full of boots of the famous adorning the club.

The boot-collecting venture all began, would you believe, because of the foot and mouth disease scare of 1967. He and the club's chairman, Eric Clarke, had travelled to Cardiff to present Llochore All Blacks with a miniature coracle as a momento of their visit. Meads, who'd been sent off the previous Saturday at Murrayfield, was so overcome that anyone should want to comfort him in such a way that he gave them his boots. Herewini did, too. "Because of the foot and mouth, you see, they could not take them back to New Zealand anyway".

Taking the centre position in the club's central cabinet is the pair that gives him the most satisfaction - the white boots which once belonged to Muhammad Ali. They were pro-

cured for him by Gerald Williams, the BBC tennis correspondent, who hails from nearby Llanstephan.

Here hung Cooper's and Conells' boots. From football, Beckenbauer and Pele represent one generation, Finney and John Charles another. If there are Cowdry and Sobers to represent one era, there are Botham and Richards to represent this.

Thompson, Ovett and Coe of athletics; Borg and Billie Jean of tennis and so on through Nastase and Nicklaus, Ed Moses and Stirling Moss. And if Jeeps and Duckham, of England, catch the eye, then anybody who's anybody in Rugby over the last 20 years has his boots here, with signature and good wishes attached.

Which were the most difficult pair to obtain? "I couldn't for the life of me get hold of Sir Stanley Matthews. Whenever I rang, I spoke to his wife - who had learnt as every wife does, she said, to expect him when he saw her. That was the time when he had commitments in South Africa, Canada and Malta. It was difficult." But, always a man for the main chance, he has his way of making an offer that no one has yet refused.

"Would you like a salmon, Lady Matthews, fresh from the Towy?"

he asked. "Yes, yes, we have some Scottish friends coming down to come to the repay. The fish was immediately dispatched by Bristol Rail. The boots duly arrived a week later.

The catch that gives him the most pleasure? Sir Gordon Richards' in his unheeding nomination. Horse racing, to, has been a passion. There was a time when he owned 16 thoroughbreds, and Gwyaze Morgan is one of an elite to have had a winner - Olympus - at Cheltenham, trained by the owner.

"Again there was a difficulty," he says. "Sir Gordon had given all his riding gear away. Don't bother, I was told." But the opportunist in him insisted that he should bother. And away went another British Rail parcel with a familiar name.

The recipient seemed the static type and found a pair of boots.

The letter which accompanied the gift says that they were the pair Sir Gordon wore for his Derby winner, a week later he was wearing them when he was thrown at Sandown.

On Monday Morgan goes on the maiden voyage of the Royal Princess, but before that is the matter of his club's cup encounter with Pontypool. Jeff Squire has promised Morgan his boots.

Gerald Davies

Threesome lead the parade in Scotland

By Michael Stevenson

Three schools are vying for pre-eminence in Scotland: Glenalmond, George Watson's College and Edinburgh Academy play Glenalmond and the following weekend meet George Watson's, while last Saturday Alton's beat Glenalmond 21-12.

It will take a fine side to topple Dickson, who have won all their six games this season, victims being a useful Strathallan side, whom they defeated 25-3. Edinburgh led 19-3 at the interval, through tries by Graham, Walker and Swanson, with their stand-off half and captain, Walker, contributing two conversions and a penalty. Reith kicked Strathallan's penalty. Strathallan defended stoutly in the second half and came within one score, a mere 10 minutes from the close.

A hard fought game further south ended in a 3-3 draw through a penalty apiece, between Selby and Durham.

There are few more dedicated rugby cities than Bristol. Predictably, a meeting between two of its most successful schools is something not an occasion. Queen's School's Head, the Revd Dennis Clifton College 20-22 in a match that so easily could have gone the other way, error and indisipline leading to clifftin's downfall. Epsom are going well and registered their eighth win of eight matches.

Their victims were Reigate (16-0) and their scorers were Greaves, Baldwin, Law (tries) and Baldwin (two conversions).

Bedford (P6, W4, L1, D1) registered a good win over Uppingham (16-9). The Bedford pack got progressively more on top. Their No 8, Bayfield, scored two tries in this victory.

Williams called in

Ian Williams, the replacement for the injured Moon, makes his first appearance of the tour when the Barbarians play Munster at Limerick tomorrow.

AUSTRALIANS R Gould (Queensland), L Williams (Queensland), A Scott (Queensland), captain, M Hawker (New South Wales), R Harley (New South Wales), E. H. Newell (New South Wales), T. Lewis (New South Wales), T. Lewton (Brasenose), S. Garrow (Queensland), S. Pocock (South Wales), R. Repplier (South Wales), S. G. Smith (South Wales), replacements: P Cox (New South Wales), D Cope (Australian Capital Territory), I Lane (Queensland), P. Jackson (Queensland), J. Russell (Queensland), W. Graft (New South Wales).

RUGBY UNION

Banker Ripley sees chaos of the game compounding interest

Simon Barnes

an organized league structure, who would organize about 100 clubs where the best players all the time. And there are others who will defend the traditional structure of the game to the death. The point is, they are both right. There is no doubt that Rugby Union is in a mess. But I enjoy that. I think the chaos makes it more fun.

"A league with divisions will undoubtedly bring in benefits to the game. But at the cost. The game will lose its amateurism, will lose its sense of solid character and with it a lot of its humanity. And so will the aspect that makes the game enjoyable."

Rugby is perpetually fascinating - what other sport can rival rugby's talent for scoring own goals? The fact that a player who is sent off in a club match can't play for England all season is a finest example of an own goal you could hope for."

Ripley's attitude is a kind of anticipated nostalgia. Most people he meets are not that major changes in the game are inevitable, but that they will come sooner rather than later. He has put himself in the rare position of enjoying good old days while they are actually happening. "If we get beat by Romania, a lot of people will feel they ought to fall on their swords. They shouldn't feel like that. It would be just part of the milder criticisms levelled at the game."

"Yes, there are plenty of people who think it is important to insidigate

it still there. Ripley predicts the establishment of a league system within five years, and says that professional rugby will in due course become a fact of life. Eternal events will catch up with the game. There are plenty of environments who know a good thing when they see one. At the top level, men names get nicked, don't they? - and there are plenty of players who would crawl across broken glass to play professionally."

But the Ripley nostalgia thesis is nothing to do with holy feelings about amateurism. "If I was an unemployed lad with talent from south Wales, I'd go off and play Rugby League. If I'd won the world Superstars final" (he was third) "I'd probably have become a professional sportsman."

VOLLEYBALL

Bulgarians bar the way for Britain

By Paul Harrison

If the first hurdle in European competition proved to be almost embarrassingly easy, with two British clubs through to the last 16 for the first time, then Capital City Spikers and Hillingdon Ladies may now find themselves for the high jump.

Both have drawn Bulgarian

opponents in the next round of the European Champions' Cup. Spikers play CSKA Sofia and Hillingdon face Levski Spartak, with the first leg in Sofia on the weekend of December 1-2.

The Bulgarians will be a much tougher proposition than the Luxembourg side whom Spikers

Ripley: predictions

VOLLEYBALL

Williams called in

Ian Williams, the replacement for the injured Moon, makes his first appearance of the tour when the Barbarians play Munster at Limerick tomorrow.

AUSTRALIANS R Gould (Queensland), L Williams (Queensland), A Scott (Queensland), captain, M Hawker (New South Wales), R Harley (New South Wales), E. H. Newell (New South Wales), T. Lewis (New South Wales), T. Lewton (Brasenose), S. Garrow (Queensland), S. Pocock (South Wales), R. Repplier (South Wales), replacements: P Cox (New South Wales), D Cope (Australian Capital Territory), I Lane (Queensland), P. Jackson (Queensland), J. Russell (Queensland), W. Graft (New South Wales).

Ripley: predictions

General

Limited number of SPECIAL DEAL

2000, 2300, 2600 S, 3500 SE

at UNBEATABLE PRICES

Free delivery anywhere in the country

Oxford (0865) 244833

HARTWELLS

of Oxford Ltd

Limited number of SPECIAL DEAL

2000, 2300, 2600 S, 3500 SE

at UNBEATABLE PRICES

Free delivery anywhere in the country

Oxford (0865) 244833

Dial direct from your own car

from £9.95 per week

only

On next new car you could save over £5500*

Phone 0892 350909

for free colour price guide and brochure

British independent and specialist car finance company

of tax free export

TEL 01823 616254

LOTUS

For those with driving ambition

A limited number of crisp and gleaming new Excels and Esprits is available for those who want the best and want it now.

For full details call the number below but please act immediately - Lotus cars don't hang around.

0272 277007

DESIGNER CARS

LIST COST POB

ELAN 2.0 20000 £20,000

SCORPIO 2.0 20000 £20,000

MONTE CARLO 2.0 20000 £20,000

